



THE TIMES Tomorrow

Livingstone's legacy What will happen to London when the GLC disappears? Missing children How Britain can learn from American experience Trading places Jack Straw looks at the growth in foreign exchange dealing High hopes Setting sail for a British victory in the America's Cup

Portfolio

There were two winners of the £2,000 Times Portfolio competition yesterday. Mrs Marjalee Craig of St Albans, Hertfordshire, and Mrs J. K. Bristow of Huntingdon, each receive £1,000. Portfolio list, page 22; how to play, information service, back page.

Botswana warned by Pretoria

Mr R. F. "Pik" Botha, the South African Foreign Minister, has told Botswana that South Africa reserves the right to take appropriate action to protect the lives of its citizens. Pretoria has frequently quoted that it terms as international law as justification for cross-border retaliatory raids. Border tensions, page 8

Union elections under scrutiny

Complaints by members of the Transport and General Workers' Union about the conduct of the recent controversial elections for the union executive are being investigated by the government-appointed Certification Officer for Trade Unions. Page 2

French favourite

The French Government is thought to favour a rail-only channel tunnel because it considers the rail system as one of its strengths. Page 6

Kasparov doubt

Gary Kasparov, the world chess champion, predicted in an interview with Der Spiegel that his title rematch with Anatoly Karpov would be called off by the World Chess Federation. Chess denial, page 8

Computer boost

Underpinned by the blackest year since the personal computer business began in the UK, manufacturers are about to launch new models. Page 15

Coal demand

A demand for lower coal prices was made by Mr Philip Jones, chairman of the Electricity Council, which is the biggest customer of the National Coal Board. Page 19

Officer convicted

The head of the Dorset police traffic division has been given a suspended jail sentence after admitting driving at more than three times the legal drink level. Page 3

Maze fast ends

The republican hunger strike in the Maze prison by convicted murderers Robert Thoburn, Gerard Stenson and Thomas Power has ended. Page 2

'Spy' inquiry

The inquiry into the Cyprus secrets trial was told that regulations governing the arrest and detention of servicemen were "apparently incomprehensible". Page 2

Tough choice

Yugoslavia has chosen a hardliner, Mr Branko Mikulic, as its next Prime Minister, in a surprise shuffle intended to battle unemployment and inflation. Page 6

Glamour tie

Liverpool and Chelsea, third and fourth respectively in the first division, have been drawn to play each other in the FA Cup fourth round. Full draw, page 25

Table with 2 columns: Home News, Overseas, Arts, Business, Church, Court, Crosswords, Diets, Features, Law Report, Leading articles, and Letters. Values range from 2-5 to 15.

Heseltine told by law chief: Stick to the facts

The Solicitor-General has accused Mr Michael Heseltine of a "material inaccuracy" in a letter about the Westland rescue struggle to Lloyds merchant bank. The EEC Commissioner for Industry warned the company that it could lose European deals if it accepted the Sikorsky offer. Sir John Cuckney, the Westland chairman, said he would not put the European offer to shareholders. If the Sikorsky package was rejected, receivership was inevitable.

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

The Solicitor General, Sir Patrick Mayhew, warned Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, yesterday that he had a strict duty to stick to the facts in his campaign for an Anglo-European rescue of the Westland helicopter company.

That remarkable warning, contained in a highly confidential Whitehall memorandum, was leaked yesterday by senior Whitehall sources.

A Press Association report said: "The Solicitor General, Sir Patrick Mayhew, in an almost unprecedented move, this afternoon, accused Mr Michael Heseltine of a 'material inaccuracy' in a letter about the Westland helicopter deal which the Defence Secretary wrote to Lloyds Merchant Bank on Friday."

Whitehall sources opposed to Mr Heseltine then trumped their earlier leaks with a partial text of Sir Patrick's letter, which allegedly complained of Mr Heseltine's threat that if Westland joined forces with United Technologies-Fiat it could jeopardize participation in European collaborative projects.

The Heseltine text, as published in Saturday's Times, said: "There are indications available to HMG [Her Majesty's Government] from both the other governments and the companies concerned that a Westland link with Sikorsky-Fiat would be incompatible with participation..."

At that point in the leak it became unclear whether there were sentences or even paragraphs missing, but the leak went on: "The Government in such circumstances is under a duty not to give information which is incomplete or inaccurate in any material particular..."

The next leaked sentence read: "And I must therefore advise you that you should write again to Mr Horne [managing director of Lloyds Merchant Bank] correcting the inaccuracies..." It was reported later that Mr

Heseltine's reaction had been robust in the extreme; that there had been complaints of legal nit-picking.

Other Whitehall sources were unclear as to whether Mr Heseltine had in fact been mistaken, and it was suggested by defence ministry sources that Sir Patrick was merely advising that the text should be rechecked.

It was said that Sir Patrick had seen the Heseltine letter in The Times on Saturday and he felt it necessary to be legally watertight.

The suspicion at the Ministry of Defence was that he had been "put up to it" by the Department of Trade and Industry and that the Department had then leaked the result in an attempt to sabotage Mr Heseltine's pro-European campaign.

The next move will be up to Mr Heseltine, but if he does correct his letter to Lloyds Merchant Bank then his correction - and retreat - will have to be made public.

Mr Heseltine made clear later, however, that no correction was necessary - that he had stuck to the facts.

It was said last night that all the latest developments in the Westland saga will be reported to the cabinet on Thursday.

The shareholdings to be asked to agree restructuring to allow new borrowing, Sir John said if 50 per cent did not agree, receivership was inevitable - and the only restructuring package on the table is the Sikorsky-Fiat offer.

Sir John added: "I will not let shareholders vote on both schemes. We are not in a takeover position here. We must have a capital reconstruction in place."

"There is a danger that if we had a vote on two competing offers, the company would fall between two stools. That is a very dangerous position."

It is believed that the members of the European consortium improved their offer at a meeting held last night with Sir John. He was in talks with Sir Austin Pearce, the chairman of British Aerospace, and its managing director and chief executive, Sir Raymond Lygo, and Mr James Prior, the chairman of GEC, together with Lord Weinstock, GEC's managing director.

Sir John indicated last night that he would keep the January 14 timetable. But he agreed "there is a price for everything and there must be a possibility that the Europeans will put up a better offer which I will consider."

Westland's board was keen to emphasize that it is the quality year to June.

The company and its advisers, J Henry Schroder Wagg, have chosen to use tender, rather than a fixed price offer for sale, because of the difficulty in pricing this type of company.

The minimum tender price is 320p a share but analysts expect the initial trading price to be 350p or higher, reflecting widespread demand from private investors.

The company will own the copyright to any works written by Mr Lloyd Webber in the next seven years. He has several projects in mind, including producing his first film.

Application lists for the shares will open on January 14 and dealings are expected to start on January 21.

Tempus, page 21

Top diplomat, page 5



Sir Patrick Mayhew (left) and the embattled Mr Michael Heseltine.

Shares to make £9m for Lloyd Webber

By Clare Dobie

Mr Andrew Lloyd Webber, the composer whose hits include Cats and Starlight Express, will receive at least £9.9 million when his company, The Really Useful Group, is floated on the Stock Exchange.

Mr Lloyd Webber, who owns 70 per cent of the company, is selling 2.8 million shares. The remaining holding is valued at £13.4 million at the minimum tender price.

Mr Brian Brully, the company's managing director, is selling 1.2 million shares worth £3.8 million and the company is issuing a further 1 million shares to raise £2 million for itself after expenses.

Mr Lloyd Webber yesterday said the flotation would "leave me much more free to concentrate on composing". He believes it will raise the profile of both the company and the industry. It will also enable the company to buy out Mr Lloyd Webber's half share in the Palace Theatre.

The stock market launch will not affect Mr Lloyd Webber's royalty income which he said was running at "well over £2 million" a year.

His former song-writing partner, Mr Tim Rice, will be a non-executive director on the board.

The Really Useful Group, whose chairman is Lord Gwry, develops and exploits copyrights on works by Mr Lloyd Webber such as Cats, Starlight Express, Song and Dance and a new production, The Phantom of the Opera. The company also uses works by other composers, but last year Cats contributed 87 per cent of net income.

Profits have risen sharply from £24,000 in the 13 months to June 1981 to £2.7 million last year. The company is forecasting a further increase to not less than £4.2 million in the year to June.

The company and its advisers, J Henry Schroder Wagg, have chosen to use tender, rather than a fixed price offer for sale, because of the difficulty in pricing this type of company.

The minimum tender price is 320p a share but analysts expect the initial trading price to be 350p or higher, reflecting widespread demand from private investors.

The company will own the copyright to any works written by Mr Lloyd Webber in the next seven years. He has several projects in mind, including producing his first film.

'Mole' in KGB gave 4,000 secret papers to French

By Diana Geddes, Paris

Details of what is claimed to be the most important counter-espionage operation ever conducted against the Soviet KGB by a Western power are revealed in a book to be published here on Friday, extracts from which are reproduced in this week's issue of the respected French news weekly, Le Point.

The existence of a spy, code-named "Farewell", working for the French at the very heart of the KGB, had been suspected for some time, but this is the first time that the scale and impact of the operation has been revealed in public.

According to Thierry Weitor, a journalist with Le Point and author of the forthcoming book entitled Le KGB en France, it was "Farewell" who was responsible for the spectacular expulsion of 47 Soviet spies from France in April 1983, for the unmasking in October 1984 of the German spy, Manfred Roitsch, who had been passing arms secrets to the Russians for 17 years, and for the acquisition by the West of a list of the Soviet organizations and principal agents involved in obtaining Western technological and scientific secrets for the Russians.

In all, "Farewell" passed around 4,000 top secret documents to the Direction de la Surveillance du Territoire (DST), the French counter-espionage service, between the spring of 1981 and November 1982, when he "disappeared".

The quality of the information he provided makes him, to this day, the most important 'mole' recruited by a Western service at the heart of the Soviet espionage machine. Thierry Weitor writes.

M. Wolton credits "Farewell" with the sudden US change of heart toward the French Socialist Government, with its four Communist ministers, after President Mitterrand came to power in May 1981. Having at first been highly suspicious of the new regime, President Reagan reportedly changed his mind completely after having been shown the top secret "Farewell" dossier by M. Mitterrand when the two met at the economic summit in Ottawa in July 1981.

"Farewell" is also credited by M. Wolton with provoking in 1983 one of the largest hauls of Soviet spies ever in the West. In all, 148 Soviet "diplomats" were expelled from Western countries that year, including 98 from Europe.

"Farewell" virtually fell into the French counter-espionage service's lap when, in the spring of 1981, a Frenchman walked into the service's offices in Paris carrying two letters which a "Soviet friend high up in the Soviet civil service" had given him in Moscow. In the letters, the Russian claimed that he has served in the Soviet Embassy in Damascus puzzle, page 6

Continued on back page, col 1

Acland is appointed US envoy

By Nicholas Ashford, Diplomatic Correspondent

Sir Antony Acland, aged 55, Permanent Under-Secretary at the Foreign Office for the past four years, has been appointed as the new British ambassador to Washington, it was announced yesterday.

He will succeed Sir Oliver Wright, aged 64, who retired from the Diplomatic Service in 1981 only to be summoned back a year later by Mrs Margaret Thatcher to become Britain's most important representative abroad. The change-over will take place this summer.

The new permanent head of the Foreign Office will be Sir Patrick Wright, aged 55, at present ambassador to Saudi Arabia.

Sir Antony's appointment means that for the first time in nearly 10 years Britain's senior diplomatic post has been given to a serving career diplomat.

Warning by Brussels on US deal

From Richard Owen, Brussels

The EEC Commissioner for Industry, with the backing of the commission president, intervened yesterday in the Westland helicopter controversy to urge shareholders to accept the European option.

Herr Karl Heinz Narjes of West Germany gave a warning that Britain could be shut out of European helicopter deals and military projects if Westland went into partnership with the United States.

He held out the prospect of long-term financial aid within a revived European Air Industry Corporation if the Sikorsky-Fiat offer was turned down, but hinted that the Europeans would not only refuse to cooperate with Westland but boycott its products also if they went ahead with the American deal.

M. Jacques Delors, of France, the EEC Commission president, appeared to give his support when he spoke of "playing the European card".

Speaking from the EEC Commission headquarters, Herr Narjes emphasized that he did not wish to interfere in the affairs of Westland, but the Commission had "serious problems as to the fundamental implications of the deal" with Sikorsky.

Continued on page 2, col 6

Westland backs new Sikorsky package

By Judith Huntley

The Westland board unveiled the improved £74 million rescue package from Sikorsky and Fiat yesterday, saying that the company's offer of work totalling two million man hours over five years have been put forward as well as a reduction in shareholding by the US and Italian and an injection of more money.

The board sent the details of the improved offer to shareholders yesterday unanimously recommending them to vote for the offer on January 14.

Sir John Cuckney, Westland's chairman, said yesterday that he will not be putting to the vote the rival £72.1 million rescue package from the European consortium backed by Mr Michael Heseltine, the Secretary of State for Defence.

Sir John indicated last night that he would keep the January 14 timetable. But he agreed "there is a price for everything and there must be a possibility that the Europeans will put up a better offer which I will consider."

Westland's board was keen to emphasize that it is the quality year to June.

Continued on page 2, col 5

Sudan famine appeal to Geldof

By Paul Vallely

Six major aid agencies in Sudan have made an appeal to Bob Geldof, the Band Aid organizer, after claiming that their headquarters are ignoring a rapidly deteriorating situation which could lead to a repetition of last year's famine in the west of the country.

The agencies are so alarmed that, for the first time, they have drafted a joint statement. "They have sent it to me because their own head offices have all refused to issue it because it points the finger at what went wrong last year," Mr Geldof said last night, before releasing the statement on a BBC Radio 1 current affairs programme.

The statement, drawn up by Oxfam, Save the Children, Care, The League of Red Cross and other agencies, says: "The emergency is continuing. The response of the donor governments is not. Not a single new commitment of either food or money resulted from an international government donors' conference in New York."

The United Nations, which sponsored the conference, has itself run out of money for Sudan, the agencies claim.

Sudan's minimum needs have been known for nearly three months. Agency estimates in October of four million people at risk, needing 400,000 tons of food, were confirmed in November by a UN mission which put the requirement at 517,000 tons.

Shares to make £9m for Lloyd Webber

By Clare Dobie

Mr Andrew Lloyd Webber, the composer whose hits include Cats and Starlight Express, will receive at least £9.9 million when his company, The Really Useful Group, is floated on the Stock Exchange.

Mr Lloyd Webber, who owns 70 per cent of the company, is selling 2.8 million shares. The remaining holding is valued at £13.4 million at the minimum tender price.

Mr Brian Brully, the company's managing director, is selling 1.2 million shares worth £3.8 million and the company is issuing a further 1 million shares to raise £2 million for itself after expenses.

Mr Lloyd Webber yesterday said the flotation would "leave me much more free to concentrate on composing". He believes it will raise the profile of both the company and the industry. It will also enable the company to buy out Mr Lloyd Webber's half share in the Palace Theatre.

The stock market launch will not affect Mr Lloyd Webber's royalty income which he said was running at "well over £2 million" a year.

His former song-writing partner, Mr Tim Rice, will be a non-executive director on the board.

The Really Useful Group, whose chairman is Lord Gwry, develops and exploits copyrights on works by Mr Lloyd Webber such as Cats, Starlight Express, Song and Dance and a new production, The Phantom of the Opera. The company also uses works by other composers, but last year Cats contributed 87 per cent of net income.

Profits have risen sharply from £24,000 in the 13 months to June 1981 to £2.7 million last year. The company is forecasting a further increase to not less than £4.2 million in the year to June.

The company and its advisers, J Henry Schroder Wagg, have chosen to use tender, rather than a fixed price offer for sale, because of the difficulty in pricing this type of company.

The minimum tender price is 320p a share but analysts expect the initial trading price to be 350p or higher, reflecting widespread demand from private investors.

The company will own the copyright to any works written by Mr Lloyd Webber in the next seven years. He has several projects in mind, including producing his first film.

Application lists for the shares will open on January 14 and dealings are expected to start on January 21.

Tempus, page 21

'Mole' in KGB gave 4,000 secret papers to French

By Diana Geddes, Paris

Details of what is claimed to be the most important counter-espionage operation ever conducted against the Soviet KGB by a Western power are revealed in a book to be published here on Friday, extracts from which are reproduced in this week's issue of the respected French news weekly, Le Point.

The existence of a spy, code-named "Farewell", working for the French at the very heart of the KGB, had been suspected for some time, but this is the first time that the scale and impact of the operation has been revealed in public.

According to Thierry Weitor, a journalist with Le Point and author of the forthcoming book entitled Le KGB en France, it was "Farewell" who was responsible for the spectacular expulsion of 47 Soviet spies from France in April 1983, for the unmasking in October 1984 of the German spy, Manfred Roitsch, who had been passing arms secrets to the Russians for 17 years, and for the acquisition by the West of a list of the Soviet organizations and principal agents involved in obtaining Western technological and scientific secrets for the Russians.

In all, "Farewell" passed around 4,000 top secret documents to the Direction de la Surveillance du Territoire (DST), the French counter-espionage service, between the spring of 1981 and November 1982, when he "disappeared".

The quality of the information he provided makes him, to this day, the most important 'mole' recruited by a Western service at the heart of the Soviet espionage machine. Thierry Weitor writes.

M. Wolton credits "Farewell" with the sudden US change of heart toward the French Socialist Government, with its four Communist ministers, after President Mitterrand came to power in May 1981. Having at first been highly suspicious of the new regime, President Reagan reportedly changed his mind completely after having been shown the top secret "Farewell" dossier by M. Mitterrand when the two met at the economic summit in Ottawa in July 1981.

"Farewell" is also credited by M. Wolton with provoking in 1983 one of the largest hauls of Soviet spies ever in the West. In all, 148 Soviet "diplomats" were expelled from Western countries that year, including 98 from Europe.

"Farewell" virtually fell into the French counter-espionage service's lap when, in the spring of 1981, a Frenchman walked into the service's offices in Paris carrying two letters which a "Soviet friend high up in the Soviet civil service" had given him in Moscow. In the letters, the Russian claimed that he has served in the Soviet Embassy in Damascus puzzle, page 6

Continued on back page, col 1

Half-point rise in interest rates feared

Financial analysts believe that the Chancellor may be forced to raise base rates by half a point, to 11.5 per cent, to protect the pound after money market rates rose yesterday.

Shares and government stocks fell in response. The Financial Times industrial ordinary share index dropped by 7.8 to 1141.8. The pound was boosted to \$1.4415 against the dollar. Later in New York it slipped to \$1.4330 because of fears of weaker oil prices.

Details, page 19

How TV chat left Jaruzelski speechless

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

It was intended to be a breakthrough, an example of how a Communist leader could talk with candour directly to his citizens.

Instead, there was a breakdown. And now the heads have begun to roll. General Jaruzelski's advisors had been impressed by the new Gorbachev style: the fireside chat with President Reagan, the walkabouts. The General, it was decided, would mark his elevation to head of the Polish state by abandoning the formal and straitlaced New Year's Eve speech to the nation, and

instead have a quiet, rambling chat with two television interviewers.

How TV chat left Jaruzelski speechless

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

It was intended to be a breakthrough, an example of how a Communist leader could talk with candour directly to his citizens.

Instead, there was a breakdown. And now the heads have begun to roll. General Jaruzelski's advisors had been impressed by the new Gorbachev style: the fireside chat with President Reagan, the walkabouts. The General, it was decided, would mark his elevation to head of the Polish state by abandoning the formal and straitlaced New Year's Eve speech to the nation, and

instead have a quiet, rambling chat with two television interviewers.

How TV chat left Jaruzelski speechless

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

It was intended to be a breakthrough, an example of how a Communist leader could talk with candour directly to his citizens.

Instead, there was a breakdown. And now the heads have begun to roll. General Jaruzelski's advisors had been impressed by the new Gorbachev style: the fireside chat with President Reagan, the walkabouts. The General, it was decided, would mark his elevation to head of the Polish state by abandoning the formal and straitlaced New Year's Eve speech to the nation, and

instead have a quiet, rambling chat with two television interviewers.

Kremlin attacks US policy on Libya

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

The Kremlin publicly entered the Libya crisis yesterday with a statement attacking the US for its behaviour in the wake of the Rome and Vienna airport terrorist outrages and accusing it of seeking to punish Libya in order to demonstrate its own military might.

The tense situation emerged as a threat to the new climate of Soviet-American harmony.

At a special briefing yesterday Mr Vladimir Lomeiko, the chief Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman, claimed that Libya and other regional flashpoints, including Syria and Nicaragua, were being exploited by right-wingers in Washington who were trying to sabotage the recent improvement of relations with Moscow.

Mr Lomeiko said Washington was making no attempt to solve the Libya crisis peacefully. On the contrary, it was practising a policy of "state terrorism" in breach of international charters by issuing threats against Libya and its leader, Colonel Gaddafi.

Diplomatic observers noted that Mr Lomeiko was the first Soviet spokesman to speak on the issue. Although pressed hard by Western correspondents, he refused to give any Soviet military commitment to come to the Libyan leader's aid if a US attack against him materialized.

The refusal of the Kremlin official to be drawn on the question was seen as reflecting some of the difficulties which have entered Soviet-Libyan relations since Gaddafi's visit to Moscow in October, and apparent problems in making progress towards the signing of a friendship treaty with the Soviet Union.

Mr Lomeiko appeared to try to draw a distinction between the attitude of President Reagan and hardline members of his Administration, whom he accused of being "enraged and irritated" at the improved atmosphere between Washington and Moscow.

He alleged that the hardliners (whom he did not identify) were "pouring petrol" on old regional disputes, notably in the Middle East, Central America and southern Africa, in their attempt to pursue a policy of "new globalism".

"It is symptomatic that outbursts of regional preoccupation in Washington always coincide with those periods when opportunities appear in relations between the USSR and the USA to reach agreements on measures concerning the central issue of lessening the war threat."

Much of the anti-American rhetoric during the 60-minute briefing had been familiar, almost daily fare before last year's superpower meeting in Geneva, but had been much less frequently heard here since.

Damascus puzzle, page 6

HARRODS SALE advertisement with list of items and prices. Includes: Suits, Sweaters, Pyjamas, Fur silk, Silk Ties, etc. Prices range from £10 to £150.

Union watchdog investigates complaints about TGWU poll

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

The Government-appointed Certification Officer for Trade Unions is investigating complaints from members of the Transport and General Workers' Union about the conduct of recent elections for the union executive.

Elections to the union's governing body were surrounded with controversy because some of the voting may not have complied with the employment legislation. Now the certification officer has written to Mr Ron Todd, TGWU general secretary, requesting his views about complaints from two of the union's regions.

It is understood that the complaints, from region one, covering London and the Home Counties, and region five, in the Midlands, relate to allegations that union members were not given the opportunity to vote. Voting was held last month by secret ballot at workplace and branch meetings and 25 members of the executive of 38 were elected. The union decided at a special conference to change its rules for the election of the other 14 seats so that they complied with the labour laws.

In the elections for the 25 territorial representatives, the left suffered at least two losses, including the defeat of Mr Walter Greenfield, a hard-left dockman who is the present chairman of the union. In London, the three left candidates were successful, but the London regional secretary has

Aberfan QC among three new Law Lords

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Lord Justice Ackner, the Court of Appeal judge who gained notoriety as a QC in the sixties when he fiercely criticized the National Coal Board for the Aberfan tip slide disaster, has been appointed a Law Lord.

His appointment was one of three announced by Downing Street yesterday to fill vacancies among the nine Lords of Appeal in Ordinary, as the Law Lords are known officially. Lord Justice Goff and Lord Justice Oliver are the other two appointments.

The vacancies are created by the retirement of Lord Scarman, the liberal Law Lord who has made his name as a champion of civil rights and in particular of a Bill of rights, of Lord Roskill, whose report on fraud trials is due to be published on Friday, and by the death last year of Lord Diplock.

Lord Justice Ackner, aged 65, who lists as his interests in *Who's Who* "swimming, sailing, gardening, theatre", was appointed a Lord Justice of Appeal in 1980. From 1980 to 1982 he was president of the Inns of Court and the Bar. He was appointed a High Court judge in the Queen's Bench division in 1971.

As a QC he made his reputation in libel cases, defending the *International Herald Tribune* against an action being brought by the Prime Minister, Mr Harold Wilson. He also represented the parents and residents at the Aberfan tribunal. He was known for avoiding pomposity and waffle, and for his mastery of the cutting aside.

Lord Justice Goff, aged 60, was appointed a judge in the Court of Appeal in 1982. He is co-author of *The Law of Restitution*. Lord Justice Oliver, 64, a Court of Appeal judge since 1980, has made his reputation in the Chancery Division, where he sat from 1974 to 1980. From 1976 to 1980 he was a member of the Restrictive Practices Court and chaired a recent review body on the Chancery Division practice and procedures. His hobbies are gardening and music.

To replace the three judges on the Court of Appeal, Downing Street announced the promotion of three High Court judges: Mr Justice Stocker, Mr Justice Woolf and Mr Justice Nicholls.

An official of the manufacturers' and traders' showed that Ford accounted for more than 38 per cent of the 78,738 cars sold in December. That compares with 27.8 per cent for the year as a whole.

It had four of the five best-selling models, with Escort and Orion taking a remarkable 21.5 per cent between them. Escort alone took 15.8 per cent compared with only 6.8 per cent for the Cavalier, its nearest rival.

Total sales in 1985 of 1.8 million were 5 per cent up on 1984, beating the previous record of just under 1.8 million in 1983.

Terror declines, but RUC deaths rise

From Richard Ford, Belfast

Terrorism in Northern Ireland continued to decline last year in spite of the Royal Ulster Constabulary suffering its worst year for deaths since 1976.

Terrorist shootings and explosions decreased by 30 per cent and the number of people killed in the troubles fell by 10 to 54, with the Provisional IRA's campaign increasingly being concentrated in border areas, according to the RUC.

The Provisionals were responsible for the deaths of all 29 members of the security forces killed last year, and their campaign in the province's capital was again extremely limited, indicating success for the RUC's strategy of tight security in the main towns and cities.

The Provisionals killed one soldier in the Divis Flats, a civilian in a city centre car park, two alleged Catholic informers and another Roman Catholic youth who died after a punishment shooting in west Belfast.

The Irish National Liberation Army, badly affected by informers, was responsible for the

TERRORIST INCIDENTS

	1984	1985
Deaths	64	54
Injuries	866	845
Explosions	193	130
Attacks on RUC stations	68	43
Numbers charged with terrorist offences	526	485

There has been a steady downward trend in terrorism since 1972, the worst year of the troubles, although there was an increase five years ago during the republican hunger strikes.

Although officials deny there is any acceptable level of violence in the province, in private many believe the figure is reaching the lowest that can be achieved. Furthermore, there are hopes that the Anglo-Irish agreement can in the words of one official, "smooth" by a slow process, the terrorists' campaign of violence.

Maze hunger strike ends

A republican hunger strike in the Maze prison crumbled last night when all three prisoners pledged to fast to death in protest at the supergrass system at a meal.

Robert Tobin, aged 24, a convicted murderer, ended his 19-day fast after being visited in the top-security jail by his wife, Cathy, and the Labour peer, Lord Gifford, an opponent of the use of supergrass evidence.

Late last night, the Northern Ireland office said Gerard Steenson and Thomas Power had also started eating.



Firemen carrying one of the injured from the scene of the underground explosion in a sewer tunnel under construction on the outskirts of Glasgow.

Two killed in sewer explosion

From Ronald Faux, Glasgow

Two men died and nine others were taken to hospital after gas exploded in a sewer under construction on the south side of Glasgow yesterday.

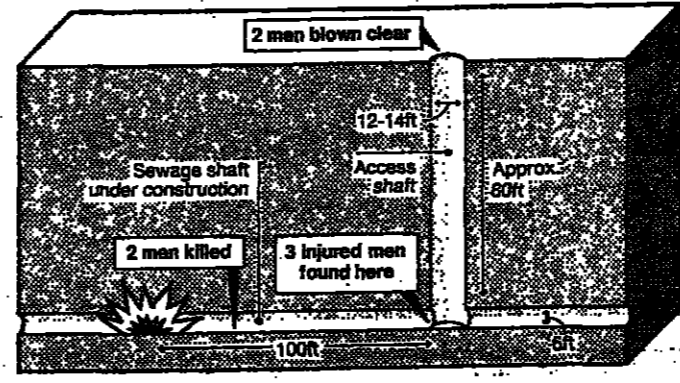
The accident occurred in a 110ft deep tunnel which had been closed for two weeks for the Christmas and new year holiday.

The Health and Safety Executive has begun an investigation into the explosion, which is believed to have been caused by a build-up of natural methane gas in the 5ft high tunnel.

The dead men were named by the police as Mr Charles Ward, also known as Mr Hugh Rogers, aged 48, of Ayr, Ayrshire, Co Dumfries, in the Irish Republic, and Mr Joseph Moore, aged 41, of Hurley Road, Greenford, west London.

One workman was transferred to the serious burns unit at the Royal Infirmary, Glasgow, where his condition last night was said to be critical. He is Mr Cathal Roarty, aged 34, of Lubas Place, Toryglen, Glasgow.

A hospital spokesman said the injured workmen were being treated for gas inhalation, burns and shock. They included Mr James Sweeney, aged 45, and his son, also



Rules for detention of servicemen 'baffling', QC says

By Gregory Neale

The Armed Forces regulations governing the arrest and detention of servicemen were "appallingly incomprehensible" and should be redrafted, the inquiry into the investigations that led to the Cyprus secrets trial was told yesterday.

Mr Robin Grey, QC, counsel for the interrogators who questioned the men later acquitted of espionage charges, told the inquiry in London that the regulations were badly drafted.

"It is an appalling state of affairs if officers concerned with vital matters of national security, possibly involving their powers are not the consequences of exceeding those powers", Mr Grey said.

The inquiry has heard already that senior officers in Cyprus were at odds at times over the detention, initially without charge and later on holding charges, of the servicemen involved in the secrets case.

Eight servicemen were acquitted of charges under the Official Secrets Act at the Central Criminal Court last October, after Britain's longest and most expensive espionage trial. In evidence the men complained that they had been intimidated by harsh interrogation into making false confessions.

Mr Grey told the inquiry that sections of the Armed Forces regulations should be redrafted in the light of the case. "Even lawyers have found it difficult to know whether or not Queen's Regulations were followed reasonably", he said.

Mr Grey said there were inconsistencies of meaning between the Queen's Regu-

NCB denies rise to some pitmen

By Our Labour Correspondent

Mr Ian MacGregor, chairman of the National Coal Board, told the Union of Democratic Mineworkers yesterday that he would not sanction payment of an agreed pay increase to several hundred members of the union.

He told a meeting with UDM officials in Nottinghamshire that paying the 6 per cent increase to members in pits where the National Union of Mineworkers was in the majority could be expected to

Boom in car sales sets new records

By Clifford Webb, Motoring Correspondent

Sales of new cars during the closing days of 1985 beat all previous records for December and made 1985 the best year ever.

But it led to accusations last night that Ford, the market leader, had "turned the market upside down" by registering thousands of cars to boost its year-end market share.

Figures released by the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders showed that Ford accounted for more than 38 per cent of the 78,738 cars sold in December. That compares with 27.8 per cent for the year as a whole.

It had four of the five best-selling models, with Escort and Orion taking a remarkable 21.5 per cent between them. Escort alone took 15.8 per cent compared with only 6.8 per cent for the Cavalier, its nearest rival.

Total sales in 1985 of 1.8 million were 5 per cent up on 1984, beating the previous record of just under 1.8 million in 1983.

See-saw battle favours Sikorsky bid

By Our Political Correspondent

Although the Westland crisis flared last month, Sir John Cuckney, an expert in company revivals, was brought in last June.

The fact that he had to wait until the end of September before he was able to get a firm Sikorsky bid for a minority stake in his company explains some of his apparent impatience with the belated offer from the European consortium.

But once Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, and British industrialists had seen the threat from United Technologies-Fiat, the Sikorsky team, the political and industrial battle began with a vengeance. It began on December 5: When Mr Heseltine launched his internal Whitehall bid for the Europeans to be given a chance to compete.

6: Another ministerial meeting sustains Mr Heseltine's bid for a European option.

9: Cabinet committee on economic affairs again endorses Heseltine's view, although Mr Leon Brittan, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, also wins support for view that ministers should not be seen to be partisan.

11: Westland share dealing suspended.

12: By which time United Technologies has lined up with

HOW THE TWO OFFERS COMPARE

	UTC/Fiat	Consortium
Financial		
New ordinary share capital subscribed by existing shareholders	14.2	13.0
New ordinary share capital subscribed by potential partners	23.1	23.1
New preference share capital to be subscribed or purchased by potential partners	22.8	22.8
Total reconstruction package	74.0	73.1
UTC and Fiat have agreed to purchase 5 million A Preference Shares from the banks at par		
Other features		
Subscription price of rights issue shares	80p	55p
Subscription price per ordinary share by potential partners	85p	65p
Coupon on preference share capital—non convertible	8%	10%
convertible	7.5%	7.5%
Number of warrants to be issued to all existing shareholders		
Number of warrants to be issued to existing shareholders who take up their rights	up to 23.7m	up to 23.7m
Work commitment		
Guaranteed man-hours over 5 years, 7 over 3 years	2.0m	1.8m
Fully diluted shareholdings*		
Existing shareholders	84%	63%
Potential partners	11%	21%
The banks	15%	16%

*Following full conversion and exercise of warrants

Westland crisis

- 16: Political pressure builds up with Commons statement from Mr Brittan in which he says that Anglo-Italian EH101 helicopter programme will proceed, even with acceptance of UT-Fiat offer.
- 17: Mr Heseltine comes out fighting. Senior government sources say Mr Brittan misled House over Anglo-Italian collaboration in event of UT-Fiat tie-up with Westland. Mrs Margaret Thatcher says choice is up to Westland.
- 18: Westland signs outline agreement with UT-Fiat.
- 20: European offer improved.
- 22: Calculated leak that Libya has 14 per cent of Fiat equity.
- 23: Westland board meets to consider £73.5 million Euro government offer which compares with £72.2 million UT-Fiat offer.
- 30: Decision to put both offers to shareholders, due to meet January 14.
- January 1: United Technologies-Sikorsky chiefs arrive in London. Mrs Thatcher tells Sir John that although there are "current" indications that European collaboration would be threatened by UT-Fiat bid, the government would resist such discrimination.
- 3: Mr Heseltine tells Mr David Howe, acting for European consortium, of indications that UT-Fiat bid would be incompatible with future European collaboration on two helicopter projects.
- 5: Anglo-European consortium asks for talks with Sir John, who provokes open attack from Mr Heseltine when he announces that Westland board has decided to recommend improved UT-Fiat offer.

Philosophy

12 DISCUSSIONS ON PRACTICAL PHILOSOPHY

This series of talks is based on the great teachings of the past and present.

It is of particular interest to those seeking answers to the simple and fundamental questions of life. What is its purpose? Why am I brought into being?

The course also examines how these teachings can help the individual better to realise his own potential and to understand his own nature.

Since the course was first introduced over 30 years ago, over 20,000 men and women have attended and many have gone on to do another term. "The most fascinating course I ever attended," wrote one student.

The talks which last about 2 hours, are repeated each evening and on Saturday mornings, so you may vary your attendance from week to week.

12 week introductory course in Philosophy starting 6th-11th January 1986. Monday - Friday 7.00pm - Saturday 10.00am. £21 (£11 for full time students).

To enrol, write or phone THE SCHOOL OF ECONOMIC SCIENCE 90 Queen's Gate, London SW7. Tel: 01-573 1984.

Two unions are exempted from Murdoch deadline

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

News International has exempted the electricians and the National Union of Journalists from a Christmas deadline for an agreement over *The London Post* to be printed at Wapping, east London.

An official of the company which owns *The Times*, *The Sunday Times*, *The Sun* and *News of the World*, said yesterday that the management would be prepared to reopen talks with the NUJ and the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunications and Plumbing Union (EETPU) but that meetings had yet to be arranged.

Negotiations with the other printing unions, Sogat '82, the National Graphical Association and the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, were at an end, however.

The move will provide a severe test for the fragile front of solidarity presented by the printing unions which until now has included the NUJ. The electricians' union has already broken ranks by indicating its readiness to sign a legally binding no-strike deal with News International.

Talks with all five unions ended before Christmas without agreement, but the EETPU says its part in the negotiations were conducted only at branch level. The group had previously implied that it might be prepared to meet national

Westland backs Sikorsky's improved offer

Continued from page 1

of the Sikorsky-Fiat deal that is attractive to the company as well as the overall terms which exceed those on offer from the European consortium.

Mr Leon Brittan, the Secretary of State for Industry, made it clear last night that the Government sticks by its view that Westland must look after its own survival. He said: "The Government has never taken the view, contrary to recent press reports, on how many options should be put to the shareholders of Westland. That is a matter for the board of Westland to decide within the framework of company law."

The text of Mr Heseltine's letter, reported on Saturday, should have said that a feasibility study on battlefield helicopters "would now be subject" in a five nation project if Westland linked with the British-European consortium. Because of a misprint the word "not" appeared instead of "now".

European option given backing from Brussels

Continued from page 1

Westland shareholders had to be made aware of three key factors favouring the European option:

- That senior arms procurement officials from several EEC states, including Britain, had committed themselves last September to a co-ordinated arms policy for Europe and this was still valid;
- That joint efforts on military technology fell within the framework of EEC projects such as Eureka, which had significant civilian spin-offs;
- That to allow Sikorsky to enter the already-overcrowded European helicopter market via Westland was economically and politically unacceptable.

Asked what the EEC was offering Westland, Herr Narjes said that the Commission was considering restarting the Air Industry Corporation, a project begun and abandoned in the 1970s. That would facilitate the restructuring of the European air industry.

Herr Narjes said that the Commission was "dusting off the files" on potential European technology projects which had failed in the past, but which were viable in today's changed situation. These included the "post-jet" generation of aircraft which were planned for the turn of the century but could be built only in Europe through joint efforts.

Herr Narjes said that he was speaking out in spite of anxieties over whether EEC intervention would be helpful to the European cause and Mr Heseltine. He had at no time been in contact with Mr Heseltine or other British ministers.

He was stepping in because Westland shareholders would in future blame the Commission if it fell silent and failed to give the full facts.

EEC officials said that the two British Commissioners, Lord Cockfield and Mr Stanley Clinton Davies, had been consulted before Herr Narjes spoke.

Union leader wants workers to have say

The leader of the largest union at Westland last night wrote to Sir John Cuckney asking him to hold a referendum of all 7,000 employees to establish their views in the wrangle over the future of the helicopter group.

Mr Ron Todd, general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, said he believed that the workers' views were more important than the Cabinet's or the shareholders.

The company's employees stood to lose everything in the dispute but would be the company's future his statement continued.

Corrections

Contrary to our report (December 28) on television licence payment, Consolidated Fund is equal only to the net fees collected.

In yesterday's moves, in the Greenwich-Heron, the notation Non-Not in moves 5 and 13 should read 0-0 in each case; in Pleasant-Bellon, move 5 should read N-P.

Suspended jail sentence for police traffic chief who was 3 times over limit

The head of the Dorset police's traffic division was sentenced yesterday to 28 days in jail, suspended for two years, after admitting driving when his breath showed that he was more than three times over the legal drink limit.

Chief Superintendent Bert Sheldon, aged 44, who had been short-listed for jobs as assistant and deputy chief constable with other forces, was also disqualified for two years. He faces dismissal from the police.

Mr Philip Jacobs, for the defence, said Sheldon had committed the offence on the first anniversary of his wife's leaving him while he was on a six-month course to prepare officers for the highest ranks.

"It was a very considerable blow to him. Since that time he has been a unhappy and lonely man," Mr Jacobs said. Sheldon had gone drinking when he was unable to face another lonely night at home.

Sheldon, whom Mr Jacobs said had an exceptional record and had obtained an honours degree in law, joined the police in 1960.

Mr Michael Davies, for the prosecution, said Sheldon had been arrested on August 25 last year after driving his car in Fenside Road, Poole, about 300 yards from the police station.

Four people in a car saw Sheldon's vehicle coming towards them on the wrong side of the road. Sheldon, who was off duty and in plain clothes, swerved back to his side of the road and hit a belisha beacon.

He then attempted to drive away, although his vehicle was badly damaged and stuck on the beacon. It was clear that he had been drinking and a woman constable arrested him after giving him a breath test.

At the police station later he gave two specimens of breath with readings of 132 and 135, the legal limit is 35.

Sheldon, of Sandbanks Road, Parkstone, admitted drink-driving. The chairman of the bench

at Poole Magistrates' Court, Miss Jeanne Biggott, told him: "Fortunately you hit the beacon and not someone on the crossing. Whatever the consequences, the only sentence appropriate is a custodial one."

Mr Jacob had told the magistrates that Sheldon would have to face disciplinary proceedings.

If a prison sentence was imposed it would be impossible for the chief constable to retain his services. Sheldon would lose his £24,000-a-year job and his index-linked pension, estimated to be worth between £300,000 and £400,000 over 25 years.

Mr Jacobs said Sheldon felt considerable shame at what he had done and was suffering from acute anxiety and depression.

As head of the traffic division Sheldon spearheaded Dorset's drink-driving campaign at Christmas 1984, warning motorists: "If you drink, don't drive".



Chief Supt Bert Sheldon, who faces dismissal.

● A police constable faces prosecution after failing a breath test while returning from a day trip to France. The officer, stationed at Brighton, had been driving home a group of policemen. Prosecution will depend on the result of a blood test.

Driver is jailed for a year

Paul McKenzie, aged 25, a drink-drive motorist who passed a red traffic light and killed another driver was jailed for a year and banned from driving for four years by the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

Judge Michael Coombe said that McKenzie, an electronics engineer, of Pinner, Middlesex, had "an appalling motoring record with six convictions for having no insurance and one for careless driving. It seems that you couldn't care less about others on the road."

McKenzie was convicted of causing the death by reckless driving of Julian Roberts, aged 24, a groom, of Petersfield, Hampshire.

● Denis Lynch, aged 19, a drink-drive offender who killed a close school friend, was given a total of three years' youth custody yesterday and banned from driving for five years by Wood Green Crown Court, north London.

Lynch, a labourer from Wood Green, was driving six friends home from a Kentish Town dance hall when the car careered into a launderette. His friend, the front seat passenger, Gerry Sexton, aged 18, died after two months in a coma.

Lynch pleaded guilty to causing death by reckless driving on August 12, driving with excess alcohol and with no insurance or driving licence, and driving the car knowing it to have been taken without consent.

Letters, page 15



Prince Andrew defying the cold without a jacket to inspect the sail training ship Lord Nelson being built in Essex, and shown fully-rigged in the model.

Prince shown work on £2m sail training ship

Prince Andrew spent 90 minutes yesterday inspecting work on the sail training ship Lord Nelson, being built at Wivenhoe, Essex. His inspection of the three-masted barge, commissioned by the Jubilee Sailing Trust, was made as patron of the trust.

The ship is designed specifically with handicapped people in mind, and has facilities to enable the handicapped to take a full part as crew of the 400-ton vessel.

During his visit Prince Andrew visited the workshop of the James Cook shipyard and

spent 20 minutes on board the Lord Nelson.

The £2 million cost of the ship is being funded entirely from voluntary contributions and so far the total has reached £1.6 million.

It is planned to commission the Lord Nelson in the spring, with a naming ceremony at Southampton.

The vessel will carry a crew of 40 on each voyage, half of whom will be physically handicapped. Voyages will cost about £300 for 10 days, and will take place each year from April to November.

Deadline for injury claims on birth shield

Women injured by an American birth control coil were given a deadline yesterday for filing claims for compensation.

In a worldwide announcement, the maker of the Dalkon Shield, A H Robins, said: "A US judge has established a date after which no further claims of injury may be filed as the result of use of the Dalkon Shield. That date is April 30."

The shield was used by more than 3.5 million women in 80 countries in the early 1970s before being withdrawn because of medical complications.

An unknown number are still believed to be wearing the interuterine device (IUD), although it has been described by one American as "a deadly death charge in their wombs, ready to explode at any time".

The device was discovered to be potentially dangerous because of its unusual tailoring which invited bacterial infection into the wearer's uterus.

More than 13,000 women in the United States are reported to have been rendered infertile and at least 21 have died. Thousands more are thought to have had miscarriages.

A H Robins filed for bankruptcy last August under the weight of compensation claims. Settlements of about £270 million have been reached.

Dr Stewart Templeton, European medical director of the company, said about 90,000 women had used Dalkon Shields in Britain.

He said that more claims had been brought against A H Robins than other companies because the Dalkon Shield had been used by more women. He also blamed the readiness of people in the United States to go to court for damages.

Dr Templeton added that to make a claim by the April 30 deadline claimants "must send their names and complete addresses, plus a simple statement that they wish to make a claim, to Dalkon Shield, PO Box 444, Richmond, Virginia 22303, USA".

Angry reaction to curbs on smoking

By Rupert Morris

Plans to restrict smoking at work, outlaw it in most public places, and ban it in cars brought angry reaction yesterday.

The latest proposal from Mr George Foulkes, the Labour MP whose anti-smoking private member's Bill is to receive its second reading next month, is that smoking should be banned in motor vehicles, as it is in Norway.

Mr Foulkes referred yesterday to the dangers of lighting a

cigarette in a moving car, as well as the sleep-inducing effect of a smoky atmosphere. He admitted his evidence was "anecdotal" and "subjective", but said he believed a smoking ban on the roads would save lives.

His proposal was vigorously rejected by the Automobile Association, which said: "We don't believe it would make any contribution to road safety. Our figures show that a tiny proportion of drivers involved in motorway accidents were

smoking at the time, and in those cases there is no evidence that smoking was a contributory factor."

But even Mr Foulkes, whose proposal was described by Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark, Conservative MP for Selby, Oak, as "a stunning interference in people's lives", did not wish to go as far as Dr Partha Surendra, head of Rasmi Electronics at Stanley, Co Durham.

Dr Surendra has been paying the eight smokers among his 40-strong workforce £2 less per

week than his other employees. He said yesterday that he would employ only non-smokers in future.

Smokers already working for Rasmi Electronics have to leave the factory floor to smoke in a special area.

Mr Clive Turner, Director of Public Affairs for the Tobacco Advisory Council, suggested yesterday that employers such as Dr Surendra and Cambridge University Press, who require staff to clock off for a smoke, were unresponsible.

Crime falls after pub law change

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

A drop in alcohol-related crimes in Scotland, after the introduction of more flexible public house opening hours, could be a good omen for similar changes in England and Wales, medical researchers have suggested.

But the Scottish Council on Alcoholism says that more liberal licensing laws south of the border are more likely to lead to increased drinking.

The *British Medical Journal*, reports that trends in alcohol-linked death and disease in

Scotland have not changed for the worse since extra hours and all-day licenses were permitted in the late 1970s.

Dr Martin Plant and Mr John Duffy, from Edinburgh University's department of psychiatry, say that officially recorded rates for drunkenness have declined more in Scotland than they have in England and Wales.

They add: "This evidence suggests that, in relation to health, the new Scottish licens-

ing arrangements may be viewed neither as a cause of harm, nor as a source of benefit. They have, in effect, been neutral.

However, the Scottish Council on Alcoholism takes a very different view in its annual report for 1984-85 which finds that more women have alcohol-related problems, and people involved in drink-related offences are on average aged about 40, 10 years younger than a decade ago.

US banker 'killed by jealous man'

A penniless man wandering the streets of London's West End stabbed a wealthy American banker to death because he was jealous, a jury at the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

Jubril Adejumo, from Nigeria, was alleged to have told detectives that he plunged a breadknife into Mr John Sterling's stomach because he was dressed well and "looked as if he went to all the posh places".

Mr Julian Bevan, for the prosecution, said that the two men were total strangers and fate brought them together in Albermarle Street, Piccadilly, on March 28 last year. Mr Adejumo, aged 25, had been in the country for only five months and could not afford his rent for lodging house accom-

modation in Westside, Clapham, south-west London.

Mr Sterling, aged 39, who came from Colorado and worked as an executive for Citibank, was in London for a business meeting and was staying at Brown's Hotel in Albermarle Street.

When questioned by detectives, Mr Adejumo is alleged to have said that Mr Sterling was "charming" when he stopped him and asked him for a cigarette light. "Then I stabbed him with all the force and hatred that had been building up inside me."

Mr Adejumo denies murdering Mr Sterling and also denies assaulting a policeman and carrying a knife as an offensive weapon. The trial continues today.

Domingo pulls out of opera

By David Hewson Arts Correspondent

The Royal Opera House's ill-fated engagement of Placido Domingo, the Italian tenor, was abruptly halted yesterday when the singer cancelled his performance in *Simon Boccanegra* at Covent Garden hours before rehearsals were due to begin.

The singer has been ordered by his doctors to undergo an immediate operation for a double hernia, news of which was broken to Covent Garden shortly before the tenor was due to arrive from Barcelona.

He is to be replaced by Gabriele Adorno, who will fly to London from Rome tomorrow and go straight into rehearsals.

Placido Domingo had been booked to appear in a new version of *Otello* at Covent Garden, but the production was postponed after the Mexican earthquake. The singer, who was in Mexico when the disaster occurred, decided to raise funds for relief work and could not spare the time for rehearsals for the new production.

The revival of *Simon Boccanegra* was planned in concert with other members of the *Otello* cast, including Renato Bruson, Dame Kiri Te Kanawa, and Robert Lloyd.

The production will still open on January 14 for five nights. A Covent Garden spokesman said that tickets would remain at the same price as *Placido Domingo's* non-appearance was no reason to offer refunds.

The operation is likely to keep the singer out of action for several months.

Road repairs will be tidier

Public services that dig holes in the road were told yesterday to achieve higher standards of repair. Legislation is expected later this year.

Mrs Lynda Chalker, Minister of State at the Department of Transport, told representatives of local authorities and public utilities at a meeting in London that the Government would make no general funds available for such repairs. However, it would consider compensation in specific cases.

MPs urged to keep laws on seat belts

By Clifford Webb

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (ROSPA) warned MPs yesterday that opponents of compulsory seat belt wearing could block permanent legislation on the matter unless MPs turned up in strength for a debate next Monday.

"Too many MPs could take the result of the vote for granted and their complacency could hand the result to the anti-seat belt lobby on a plate," the society said.

Compulsory wearing was introduced as a two-year experiment, which expires at the end of this month.

ROSPA is also concerned that many MPs may have been convinced by recent publicity given to the so-called "risk compensation" argument which alleges that drivers wearing belts take more risks, causing injuries to other road users.

Tennis coach 'tricked into Lloyd contract'

Mr Tom Morgan, a professional tennis coach dismissed for refusing to clean up at the tennis club owned by the former England star, David Lloyd, claimed yesterday that he was tricked into signing a contract with Slazenger.

Mr Morgan, aged 25, of Shepherd's Bush, north-west London, who claims unfair dismissal with another colleague, told a preliminary industrial hearing that after starting at the David Lloyd and Slazenger Racket Club in Hounslow in April 1983 he was ordered to keep up the Slazenger image.

"I was tricked into signing a contract with Slazenger," he said.

Mr Donald Watt, head professional at the club in Surrey told the tribunal that Mr Morgan's claim was untrue.

The hearing was adjourned until January 14.

Hospital deaths inquiry

By Our Social Services Correspondent

Specialists have been called in to Cashes Green Hospital, near Stroud, Gloucestershire, after six patients died over the weekend and six more geriatric patients and 16 staff fell ill.

Mr Keith Hales, general manager at Stroud Hospital, said only three of the deaths, all among patients aged over 85, now appeared to be due to the

infection. Admissions to the 65-bed geriatric hospital have been halted.

Mr Hales said legionnaires disease had been ruled out and the illness did not appear to be influenza. Dr Gareth Layshon said: "It appears to be a fairly mild viral illness, but the very elderly are particularly vulnerable to such infections."

Our new savings plan covers the generation gap...

Free CARRIAGE CLOCK

Introducing Moneymaker Plus A new and simple savings plan from Sun Alliance if you're 18 or over and under 80. Moneymaker Plus is the plan for you. All we ask is that you save a regular sum each month. In return you'll get a tax-free nest egg in just 10 years. PLUS built in life assurance. And there's a whole host of other benefits.

MAXIMUM CASH - MAXIMUM FLEXIBILITY

Moneymaker Plus includes features that potential savers like yourself look for. Maximum cash payout is a must. Let's say you're a 37 year old man saving only £30 a month - a £7,000* nest egg could be yours in just 10 years. And if you look at the table you'll see that our high payout applies to all ages.

We realise that people's needs vary too. So you tell us how much you want to save - anything from £10 to £100 a month. You save what you can afford. Not what we tell you.

MAXIMUM CASH THAT'S TAX-FREE

Current legislation allows us to pay your benefits free of all personal taxes - whether we pay out after 10 years or on death. And if you decide to leave your lump sum with us after 10 years - we'll increase it every year at an attractive rate of interest.

ACCIDENTS CAN HAPPEN

Moneymaker Plus has a very special feature. And it doesn't cost you an extra penny. If you lose your sight or use of a limb through a serious accident at ANY time before your 70th birthday - we'll pay all the remaining premiums for you. From day one of your plan, you have complete peace of mind.

INVEST WITH CONFIDENCE

You can be confident that with Sun Alliance your money is in safe and capable hands. Our investment team currently handles assets in excess of £5,000,000,000.

AN EXTRA SPECIAL PLUS FOR THE OVER 60s

You may be only too aware that many insurance plans penalise the over 60s with lower cash payouts and protection that doesn't start when you start paying your premiums. In contrast with

Moneymaker Plus you can look forward to a high cash sum after 10 years. The unique "Cash Maximising" feature ensures the highest possible payout around retirement. Also, your dependants will receive the full death benefit whether you die after 9 days or 9 years. And there's usually no medical to worry about.

CAN I GET MY MONEY BEFORE THE 10 YEARS ARE UP?

Yes! Moneymaker Plus is designed to give you the maximum benefits over a full 10 years. However, you may find you need cash before this. So after 2 years your policy can be surrendered for cash, although this value will be low in the early years. A far better alternative however is to apply for a loan secured by your Policy. (Full written details available on request.) This gives you immediate cash. And you can still look forward to a final lump sum.

SEND US YOUR APPLICATION NOW!!

Just tell us the amount you wish to save each month (between £10 and £100). We'll send you a Specimen Policy and a Personal Illustration prepared especially for you. During this special offer period we'll guarantee to accept you if you are under age 80, and can truthfully answer 'NO' to four simple questions.

We don't normally ask for a medical examination. Naturally you must disclose all facts that are likely to influence the assessment and acceptance of your application. So if you're in doubt as to whether or not any detail is relevant you should disclose it. Otherwise your benefits could be affected.

Apply today. It could make all the difference now AND in 10 years time!

Deadline

If there is anything further you wish to know about the plan or our fees contact each weekday evening until 8 o'clock. Experienced staff will be happy to help just call us on **Homecall (0445) 59009**

When you enrol we will send you this elegant brass carriage clock with accurate quartz movement.

ABSOLUTELY FREE... with Moneymaker Plus.

...a lump sum for all savers aged between 18 and 80!

SEE WHAT YOUR INVESTMENT COULD BE WORTH AFTER 10 YEARS

FOR A MONTHLY INVESTMENT OF £20

Present Age	Guaranteed Sum Assured	Annual Bonus	Capital Growth at 6%	Total Projected Maturity Value*	Immediate Life Cover
18-28	£2,120	£1,130	£1,405	£4,655	£3,128
29-34	2,120	1,130	1,404	4,654	2,128
35-39	2,123	1,127	1,401	4,651	2,123
40-44	2,111	1,121	1,393	4,625	2,111
45-49	2,099	1,109	1,379	4,577	2,099
50-54	2,061	1,094	1,360	4,515	2,041
55-59	2,034	1,080	1,342	4,456	1,912
60-64	2,012	1,068	1,328	4,426	1,812
65-69	1,973	1,049	1,304	4,328	1,622
70-79	1,975	1,049	1,304	4,328	1,166

FOR A MONTHLY INVESTMENT OF £50

Present Age	Guaranteed Sum Assured	Annual Bonus	Capital Growth at 6%	Total Projected Maturity Value*	Immediate Life Cover
18-28	£5,492	£2,916	£3,625	£12,033	£8,492
29-34	5,499	2,915	3,623	12,027	5,499
35-39	5,476	2,908	3,614	11,998	5,476
40-44	5,445	2,893	3,603	11,959	5,445
45-49	5,388	2,861	3,559	11,830	5,388
50-54	5,319	2,824	3,511	11,694	5,319
55-59	5,250	2,788	3,461	11,558	5,250
60-64	5,190	2,760	3,431	11,509	5,190
65-69	5,107	2,712	3,371	11,190	5,107
70-79	5,107	2,712	3,371	11,190	3,014

*These projected values assume that our current rates of bonus are maintained. Bonuses depend upon future profits, therefore bonus rates cannot be guaranteed. Currently assumed bonuses are 3.25% of the Guaranteed Sum Assured and 7.5% of existing bonuses. Our current Capital Growth rate is 6.6% of the Guaranteed Sum Assured.

COMPLETE THIS COUPON AND SEND IT TO US.

APPLY BY 17th JAN. 1986
to qualify for your Moneymaker Plus policy and your FREE quartz carriage clock.

YOUR BEST TO PROFIT AND PROTECTION

Send me a FREE Personal Illustration. Please send me a FREE Specimen Policy. No Salesman Will Call. No Salesman Will Call.

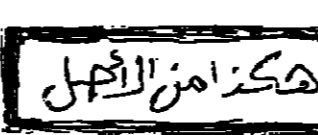
1. **Savings** (indicate in full) ROSPA LETTERS 1986

2. Tick the amount you wish to invest each month:
 £100 (max) £75 £50 £30 £20 £10 (min)

3. Answer "YES" or "NO" to each question below:
 (a) Have you any reasons to believe you are not in good health? YES NO
 (b) Are you receiving, or have you received within the last twelve months, any medical treatment?
 (c) Do you participate in any hazardous or extreme sports or activities (such as private aviation or deep-sea diving)? YES NO
 (d) Has a proposal on your life been declined, postponed, or accepted on special terms by any life insurance company?

SUN ALLIANCE INSURANCE GROUP

Now post this coupon before offer closes. No stamp is required. Send it to Sun Alliance Mortgages, EQUUS 25, Hounslow, W. Hants. HP22 1ZA. This is based upon the Company's understanding of current law and inland Revenue practice. (Registered Office: Sun Alliance Insurance Co. Ltd., 100, Broad Street, London W1C 1DQ.)



Westland Shareholders: UTC and Fiat have improved their proposals and your Board strongly recommends you to accept them.

WESTLAND plc

(Registered in England No. 302632)

Directors:
Sir John Cuckney
Sir John Trachter, K.C.B.
H. P. Stewart
The Rt. Hon. Lord Pannikar, F.C.M.G.
W. C. Miller, C.B.L.
Sir Malcolm Thomas
C. D. Verrill

Registered Office:
Westland Works
Weymouth
Somerset BA20 2TP

6th January 1986

To the shareholders and, for information only, to the holders of the Company's debenture stocks and participants in the Company's share option schemes.

A LETTER FROM YOUR CHAIRMAN

Dear Shareholders,

I am writing to you again about Westland's future. In view of the extensive media coverage and the confusing, and in some cases contradictory, statements made, I wish to explain why your Board has decided, unanimously and strongly, to recommend the improved proposals from UTC and Fiat. These are set out in this circular, which also contains the Board's appraisal and clear recommendations.

The key issues to be considered are:

- *UTC and Fiat are strong and profitable private sector companies. UTC's Sikorsky division is the world's leading helicopter manufacturer. They will make excellent partners for Westland. We are not in favour of linking with five separate parties which make up the Consortium, some members of which are competitors and state-owned, and therefore subject to political pressure.
- *The work offered by UTC and Fiat is more broadly based and will make Westland a much more viable company. It will greatly benefit Westland's non-helicopter, as well as its helicopter, activities. Westland is not just a helicopter company.
- *This is not an American takeover. The Prime Minister has confirmed that HM Government will continue to regard Westland as British. UTC and Fiat are both based in NATO countries and, as minority shareholders, will not alter Westland's status as an independent British company.
- *The Directors' duty is to act in the best interests of shareholders and employees. The Directors have no hesitation in concluding that these interests will be better served by a partnership with UTC and Fiat.

Delay could be extremely damaging to Westland. It is vital that you send your Proxy in favour of the Resolutions to arrive by this weekend.

Yours faithfully,

John Cuckney
Chairman

WESTLAND plc

(Registered in England No. 302632)

Directors:
Sir John Cuckney
Sir John Trachter, K.C.B.
H. P. Stewart
The Rt. Hon. Lord Pannikar, F.C.M.G.
W. C. Miller, C.B.L.
Sir Malcolm Thomas
C. D. Verrill

Registered Office:
Westland Works
Weymouth
Somerset BA20 2TP

6th January 1986

To the shareholders and, for information only, to the holders of the Company's debenture stocks and participants in the Company's share option schemes.

Dear Shareholders,

I wrote to you on 21st December, 1985 recommending a proposed association between Westland, UTC and Fiat as part of a reconstruction of Westland (the "Original Proposal"). In that letter I referred to alternative proposals which had been received from a group of European industrial companies (the "Consortium"). Since then there have been further developments. First, the Consortium revised its proposals, and full details of these were sent to you on 2nd January 1986. Secondly, UTC and Fiat have now improved their Original Proposals and these are set out in Appendix I (the "Improved Proposals").

Against this background, your Board has evaluated the two proposals with the utmost thoroughness. It has had to weigh up not only the immediate financial benefits of the proposals for the Company and its shareholders but also their longer term potential. In this connection, the Board has consistently maintained that the Company's future lies in an association with a substantial international business. Even if the two financial proposals had not been broadly similar, the respective commercial merits of the proposals would have been of major significance.

Your Board is firmly convinced that the qualitative nature of the work offered by UTC and Fiat and an association with two major private sector companies will be of greater benefit to the Company and offer better prospects for it to regain its former pre-eminence in the European military helicopter market. Although the situation has not been without its wider political overtones, your Board is, of course, required to act solely in the best interests of Westland's shareholders and employees.

The Directors, after the most careful consideration, unanimously and strongly recommend you to support the Improved Proposals from UTC and Fiat.

Both proposals are summarised in Appendix II to this letter. In financial terms they are broadly similar, although the Improved Proposals from UTC and Fiat raise more money for the Company. An important element of the Improved Proposals is that UTC will give up its ten year option to subscribe for additional shares at 85p per share. Instead, at the time of the Annual General Meeting (expected to be held next month), shareholders will be asked to approve an issue of warrants to subscribe for new A Ordinary Shares, to be granted to all holders of Existing Ordinary Shares, as described in paragraph 2 of Appendix I.

Why your Board recommends the UTC and Fiat proposals

In your Board's opinion the key difference between the two proposals is that the commercial viability of Westland will be altogether better assured with UTC and Fiat. Westland has had almost forty years of increasingly successful working relationships with Sikorsky. Your Board is confident that the strengthened association now proposed will represent a true partnership which will bring long term benefits to Westland. UTC, Fiat and Westland are all based in countries which are members of NATO, the commonest of British and European defence.

To meet HM Government's wish that a British heli-

copter design, development and manufacturing capability should, if possible, be maintained, it is vital for Westland to retain the ability to design, manufacture and develop complete helicopters. Under the Consortium's proposals, notwithstanding the guarantees of work over the next few years, it is the Board's considered view that Westland's role as a helicopter manufacturer would steadily be reduced to that of a manufacturer of parts only. For a Company, one of whose principal assets is the engineering and technical skills of its workforce, this is a most unappealing prospect. Under the Improved Proposals from UTC and Fiat, not only is the quality of the workload superior to that offered by the Consortium, but the licence to market and manufacture the Black Hawk secures an important addition to the Company's helicopter product range.

A further benefit is the association of the technologies and aerospace activities of the Fiat group with those of Westland. The Fiat group is a very large and profitable international group with a broad spectrum of industrial interests in aviation, space and materials technology. Many of its interests dovetail with Westland's and this will result in opportunities for strengthening Westland's technological capability and for opening up new markets to it. The Fiat group and Westland, moreover, are two of Europe's leading helicopter transmission manufacturers.

Westland is altogether more likely to improve its efficiency and to prosper as part of a partnership with two such substantial international private sector companies as UTC and Fiat than it would in association with an ad hoc grouping of companies, some of which are state-owned and competitors both of ourselves and each other. The Directors believe that, given the existing capacity and manning level problems in the European helicopter industry, the Consortium's reaction to UTC's and Fiat's initiatives was influenced in part by defensive considerations. By contrast, UTC and Fiat's proposed investment is forward looking and constructive.

Westland's future in Europe - the Prime Minister's letter
The Prime Minister stated in a letter of 1st January 1986 (the full text of which is set out in Appendix IV) that "as long as Westland continues to carry on business in the UK, the Government will of course continue to regard it as a British and therefore European company, and will support it in pursuing British interests in Europe".

Westland holds a firm contract for the development of the Anglo-Italian EH101 helicopter. In addition, the Company is involved on behalf of HM Government on the NATO naval and military light support helicopter (NH90), and is advising HM Government on the light attack helicopter (LAH). The Prime Minister has further assured your Board that "the Government would continue to support Westland's wish to participate in these projects and would resist to the best of its ability attempts by others to discriminate against Westland". UTC and Fiat have reaffirmed that they too will fully support Westland in all the European collaborative projects in which it is currently or may in the future be involved.

The Board takes considerable comfort from these assurances. Given the importance of the United Kingdom market for helicopters and the technical contribution which a strong Westland can make to European collaborative projects, the Board is confident that the Company will continue to benefit from such arrangements.

UTC and Fiat have made it clear that their participation in Westland is not conditional upon orders from the Ministry of Defence for the Black Hawk helicopter. Whilst the Ministry of Defence at present states that it has no intention of procuring the Black Hawk helicopter, HM Government has made it clear that its "policy will remain that the United Kingdom should procure its helicopters from the most cost-effective source".

Westland's bankers

The Board of Westland is very appreciative of the support which it has received from its principal bankers in this difficult period, in particular for their participation in the proposed reconstruction of the Company. The Banks have been kept informed by the Company of its position, including the two latest proposals.

The Banks have agreed, in line with their original commitment, to accept the Improved Proposals from UTC and Fiat, subject to those proposals being acceptable to shareholders.

Immediate action to be taken
In order to effect the proposed Reconstruction, it is necessary to pass certain resolutions at the Extraordinary General Meeting on Tuesday, 14th January, 1986. Two of the resolutions are Special Resolutions which require a three-quarters majority. In order to support your Board's recommendation, it is essential that you complete and return the proxy card which was enclosed with my letter to you of 21st December, 1985. In case you have mislaid the original proxy form, another proxy form is included at the bottom of this page. TO BE VALID, PROXIES MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN 10.30 A.M. ON SUNDAY, 12TH JANUARY, 1986. TO ENSURE THAT YOUR PROXY IS RECEIVED IN TIME YOU ARE STRONGLY URGED (IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY DONE SO) TO COMPLETE AND POST YOUR PROXY CARD NOW.

If you have any difficulty in completing and/or returning your proxy card in time, please ring 01-583 1398 between 10 a.m. and 8 p.m. daily.
Recommendation
Your Directors and their financial advisers, Lazard Brothers, consider that the Improved Proposals from UTC and Fiat are in the best interests of the Company and its shareholders. Your Directors unanimously recommend you to vote in favour of the resolutions to be put before shareholders at the Extraordinary General Meeting, as they intend to do in respect of their own holdings of Existing Ordinary Shares.

Westland has operated in circumstances of extreme uncertainty for some eight months. It is therefore imperative that certainty and stability are restored without any further delay and that the Board is allowed to give its undivided attention to the Company's business and to rebuilding its prosperity. Shareholders now have before them Improved Proposals from UTC and Fiat which the Board and its advisers have considered with the utmost care and which will give effect both to a capital reconstruction and an association which the Board believes will not only achieve stability but will also provide the potential for the Company's future growth. You are therefore urged to express your confidence in the Board by voting in favour of the Resolutions on 14th January. Any delay in effecting the proposed Reconstruction could be seriously damaging for your Company.

Yours faithfully,
John Cuckney
Chairman

APPENDIX I

IMPROVED PROPOSALS FROM UTC AND FIAT
The variations to the Original Proposals set out in the circular dated 21st December, 1985 are as follows:

1. **Increased subscription by UTC and Fiat**
It is proposed that UTC and Fiat will continue to subscribe for the same number of Preferred Ordinary Shares and B Preference Shares as earlier described, except that they will subscribe for the Preferred Ordinary Shares at a price of 65p per share rather than, as formerly indicated, 60p per share. It should be noted that the additional premium of 5p per share represented by the increased subscription price will not be repayable in a winding-up to the holders of Preferred Ordinary Shares in priority to any payment to the holders of the Ordinary Shares.

2. **Warrants for Westland shareholders**
Under the Improved Proposals, UTC will give up its ten year option to subscribe for additional shares at 85p per share. Instead, an issue of warrants will be made to holders of Existing Ordinary Shares on the register at the close of business on 7th January, 1986 (the Record Date for the proposed rights issue) on a 2 for 5 basis, fractional entitlements being ignored. No payment will be required in respect of the warrants unless and until subscription rights in relation to the warrants are exercised. Full exercise of these warrants would result in the issue of up to 23,718,986 A Ordinary Shares. The right to subscribe for A Ordinary Shares pursuant to the warrants will be exercisable on 31st July and 28th February in each year at 85p per share. The first subscription date will be 31st July 1986 and the last, 28th February, 1996. It is proposed to convene an Annual General Meeting for 28th February, 1986 and an appropriate resolution in relation to the issue of the warrants will be proposed at that Meeting.

Application will be made to the Council of the Stock Exchange for the warrants, which will be issued in registered form, to be admitted to the Official List. It is intended that definitive warrant certificates will be despatched on 28th February, 1986 and that their listing will become effective on 3rd March, 1986. Following the exercise of subscription rights under the warrants the Board intends to make application to the Council of the Stock Exchange for the new A Ordinary Shares resulting therefrom to be admitted to the Official List. The new A Ordinary Shares will be issued, rank *pari passu* with the then existing A Ordinary Shares save for dividends and other distributions made or paid with a reference date prior to the issue of such A Ordinary Shares.

The receipt of the warrants will not give rise to a disposal of Existing Ordinary Shares for the purposes of United Kingdom (taxation of capital gains) and the warrants will be regarded as part of each shareholder's total holding. For the purposes of calculating gains or losses on any subsequent disposal of either shares or warrants the original

cost will be allocated between the shares and warrants by reference to their respective quoted values on 3rd March, 1986.

Full details of the warrants will be sent to shareholders in due course.

3. Guarantees of Work

Under the Original Proposals, UTC formally committed to provide not less than 1 million man hours of work for Westland over a three year period. UTC's revised commitment, which is independent of market conditions and subject only to necessary Government approvals and reasonable terms, conditions and prices, provides for a total of 2 million man hours over a five year period. It is intended that this work will include approximately 1.2 million engineering man hours and approximately 0.8 million manufacturing man hours, the former being of a technological and engineering nature related to the newer models currently being designed, developed and produced by Sikorsky.

4. **Purchase of A Preference Shares**
UTC and Fiat have agreed to purchase, and the Banks have agreed to sell, 5 million A Preference Shares at par subject to such shares being allotted.

In all other respects, in particular in relation to the rights issue, the conversion of bank debt, the reduction of capital and the taking of a Black Hawk licence, the Improved Proposals from UTC and Fiat are identical with the Original Proposals set out in the circular dated 21st December, 1985.

APPENDIX II

COMPARISON OF IMPROVED UTC/FIAT PROPOSALS WITH CONSORTIUM PROPOSALS

A summary comparison between the Improved Proposals from UTC and Fiat and the proposals from the Consortium is set out below:

	UTC/Fiat	Consortium
	£m	£m
Financial		
New ordinary share capital subscribed by existing shareholders	14.2	13.0
New ordinary share capital subscribed by potential partners	23.1	23.1
New preference share capital to be subscribed or purchased by potential partners	13.7	14.0
Conversion of bank debt into preference share capital, net of sales*	23.0	23.0
Total reconstruction package	74.0	73.1

*UTC and Fiat have agreed to purchase 5 million A Preference Shares from the Banks at par

Other Features

Subscription price of rights issue shares	60p	55p
Subscription price per ordinary share by potential partners	65p	65p
Coupon on preference share capital - non-convertible	10%	8%
convertible	7.5%	7.5%
Number of warrants to be issued to all existing shareholders	up to 23.7m	-
Number of warrants to be issued to existing shareholders who take up their rights	-	up to 23.7m
Work commitment		
Guaranteed man hours	2.0m*	1.8m†
*over 5 years		
†over 3 years		
Fully diluted shareholdings*		
Existing shareholders	64%	63%
Potential partners	21%	21%
The Banks	15%	16%

*following full conversion and exercise of warrants

APPENDIX III

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1. **Responsibility for Supplementary Listing Particulars**
UTC and Fiat have responsibility for the information contained in this document regarding the UTC group and the Fiat group respectively. The Directors of Westland, whose names appear in paragraph 1 of Part I of the Appendix to the Listing Particulars, are the persons responsible for all other information contained in this document. To the best of the knowledge and belief of the Directors of Westland (who have taken all reasonable care to ensure that such is the case), the information contained in this document is in accordance with the facts and does not omit anything likely to affect the import of such information. UTC, Fiat and the Directors of Westland accept responsibility accordingly.

2. **Material contract**
In addition to those contracts disclosed in the Listing Particulars, the following contract, not being a contract entered into in the ordinary course of business, and which is, or may be, material, has been entered into by the Westland group within the two years immediately preceding the date of this document:

A letter agreement dated 5th January, 1986 between the Company (1) and UTC (2) pursuant to which UTC confirmed, for itself and on behalf of Fiat, that UTC and/or Fiat and/or a related company of UTC and/or Fiat will subscribe for a total of 35,500,000 Preferred Ordinary Shares at a price of 65p per share (and not at a price of 60p per share as provided for in the Subscription Agreement described in paragraph 6 of Part IV of the Appendix to the Listing Particulars).

3. Miscellaneous

(a) Lazard Brothers has given and not withdrawn its written consent to the issue of this document with the

inclusion therein of the statement attributed to it and references to its name in the form and context in which they appear.

(b) As referred to in the Chairman's letter and Appendix I of this document, under the Improved Proposals UTC has given up its option to subscribe for additional shares in Westland. Accordingly, the confirmation given by the Panel on Take-overs and Mergers referred to in paragraph 13 of the Chairman's letter contained in the Listing Particulars is no longer appropriate and will cease to apply.

(c) In relation to the proposed purchase of 21 Westland 30 helicopters by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission of India referred to on pages 5 and 6 of the Listing Particulars, since 21st December, 1985, the date of the Listing Particulars, it has been announced by the Indian Government that such a contract has been awarded to Westland, however, legal documentation has yet to be concluded. (d) The gross amount payable to the Company in respect of the equity securities to be allotted pursuant to resolution number 3 set out in the Notice of Extraordinary General Meeting contained in the Listing Particulars (as referred to in paragraph 7(k)(ii) of Part IV of the Appendix to the Listing Particulars) is £58,306,392. (e) UTC has been advised by Morgan Grenfell & Co. Limited in relation to the Reconstruction and the Improved Proposals.

(f) The definitions set out on page 2 of the circular to shareholders dated 21st December, 1985 apply for the purposes of this document.

4. Documents available for inspection

Copies of the following documents will be available for inspection during usual business hours on any weekday (Saturdays and public holidays excepted) at the offices of Slaughter and May, 35 Bunsell Street, London EC2V 5DB, until 4th February, 1986:

- (a) the documents listed as available for inspection in paragraph 10 of Part IV of the Appendix to the Listing Particulars;
- (b) the material contract referred to in paragraph 2 of this Appendix IV;
- (c) the letter from the Chairman of Westland to shareholders of Westland dated 2nd January, 1986;
- (d) the Listing Particulars; and
- (e) the consent letter referred to in paragraph 3(a) above.

APPENDIX IV

GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES

1. The following is the text of a letter sent by the Chairman to the Prime Minister on 30th December, 1985:

"Dear Prime Minister,
In view of the response you made to a question in the House of Commons on the 19th December that major procurement decisions are a matter for the Government as a whole, it would greatly help my Board to know if Westland would no longer be considered a European company by the Government if a minority shareholding in the company were held by a major international group from a NATO country outside Europe.

This question is of fundamental importance in view of the statement in a letter from the Procurement Executive, Ministry of Defence to Lloyds Merchant Bank dated 24th December that only by joining the so called European consortium would Westland be in a position to take responsibility for the British share of European helicopter collaborative projects.

Yours sincerely,
John Cuckney"

2. The following is the text of the Prime Minister's reply to the above letter, dated 1st January, 1986:

"Dear Sir John,
Thank you for your letter of 30th December. It has naturally been the Government's concern that a British helicopter design, development and manufacturing capability should if possible be maintained, despite the present difficulties of your company. I understand that both the proposals Westland now have under consideration are intended to achieve that objective. As long as Westland continues to carry on business in the UK, the Government will of course continue to regard it as a British and therefore European company, and will support it in pursuing British interests in Europe.

Government policy will remain that the United Kingdom should procure its helicopters from the most cost-effective source. Against this background, the Government would wish to see Westland play a full part in existing and future European collaborative projects. Some of these are still at a very early stage and all of them require the agreement of the companies and governments - including HMG - concerned. In this connection you should be aware of indications from European governments and companies that they currently take the view that a number of projects in which Westland are expecting to participate in co-operation with other European companies may be lost to Westland if the United Technologies/Fiat proposals are accepted.

It is for you to assess the significance of these indications. But of course British participation is itself an important element in the viability of European collaborative projects. And I can assure you that, whichever of the two proposals currently under consideration the company choose to accept, the Government would continue to support Westland's wish to participate in these projects and would resist to the best of its ability attempts by others to discriminate against Westland.

I have not dealt with the question of the possible consequences for Westland's present relationship with Sikorsky of a decision to accept the European consortium's proposals. You will no doubt have made your own assessment of these.

Yours sincerely,
Margaret Thatcher"

Vote today. Any delay could seriously damage your company.

Please return the proxy form to The Registrar, Westland plc, National Westminster Bank PLC, Registrar's Department, P.O. Box 82, 37 Broad Street, Bristol BS99 7YA. Form of Proxy for use at the Extraordinary General Meeting of Westland plc ("the Company") to be held on Tuesday, 14th January, 1986. I/We the undersigned being (a) member(s) of the Company, hereby appoint the Chairman of the Meeting or (see note 1).

as my/our proxy to vote for me/us on my/our behalf at the Extraordinary General Meeting of the Company convened for 10.30 a.m. on 14th January, 1986 and at any adjournment thereof. I/We direct that my/our vote(s) be cast on the resolutions referred to in the Notice of Meeting as indicated by an X as shown opposite and on any other resolution in such manner as my/our proxy thinks fit:

Date: _____
Signature(s): _____
Name(s) in full: _____
Address(es): _____

RESOLUTIONS:	FOR	AGAINST
Number 1: Ordinary Resolution		
Number 2: Special Resolution		
Number 3: Special Resolution		

Notes
1. If you wish to appoint any other person as your proxy, who need not be a Member of the Company, please delete the words "the Chairman of the Meeting" and insert the name and address of your proxy. The proxy will have discretion as to whether or not to vote in respect of the resolutions. If no instruction is given, the proxy will vote as directed or, if no direction is given, will vote as he/she thinks fit.
2. To be valid this proxy form must be completed and signed by the member or members of the Company, or by a duly authorised officer, and must be received at the Registrar's Department, P.O. Box 82, 37 Broad Street, Bristol BS99 7YA not later than 48 hours before the time fixed for the meeting or adjourned meeting.
3. In the case of a corporation, this proxy form must be executed under its common seal or signed on behalf by a duly authorised officer.
4. In the case of a partnership, this proxy form must be executed under its common seal or signed on behalf by a duly authorised officer.
5. In the case of joint holders, the vote of the senior holder (as determined by the order in which the names stand in the register) and in this purpose seniority will be determined by the order in which the names stand in the register, but the names of all holders must be shown.
6. Any shareholder to this proxy form should be initiated.

WESTLAND

Parents form action groups to halt school pay dispute

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

Parents in London, concerned about the effects of the teachers' pay dispute, have formed an action group to press for an end to the disruption.

A similar group of parents in Nottingham has also been formed with the slogan: Enough is Enough. There are others in Waltham Forest, outer London, Hampshire, South Wales, and Lancashire.

The All-England Parents Action Group is calling on the Government to immediately end the teachers' action by providing professional levels of salary. It also says it aims to "save state education" and demands that the Government stop education cuts.

Mrs Margaret Henry, who chaired the 23-members steering committee which set up the London action group on Sunday night, said that parents' accounts of what was happening to their children's education was horrific. She said: "There is great distress and anger and people are worried their children are having their futures closed down."

News of the new organization, which is holding a rallying meeting at Conway Hall on January 14, comes on the day that the teachers' side in the 11-month pay dispute meets to discuss whether to opt for conciliation.

Yesterday was the first day of term. At present the two biggest unions are working to rule, with lightning strike action planned by the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers later this week.

The biggest teachers' union, the National Union of Teachers, is however, not taking strike action until later this month. It is at present balloting members for a half-day strike in January to enable rallies to be held locally. It is the union's eleventh strike ballot.

● Poundswick High School pupils return today for the first time since the so-called obscene graffiti dispute started four months ago. (Peter Davenport writes).

But the issue at the centre of the dispute, the future education of five boys accused of dabbling in "obscene" slogans, remains unresolved and there is a risk of further disruption.

The teachers who went back to the school, on the Wythenshawe estate, in Manchester yesterday were adamant that they will refuse to take any classes which include the five fifth-year boys.

Acland to be next Washington envoy

By Nicholas Ashford, Diplomatic Correspondent

Sir Antony Acland, who is to become the next British Ambassador in Washington this summer, has been the top diplomat in the Foreign Office for the past four years.

An Arabist by training, he spent the early part of his diplomatic career in the Middle East, notably in Dubai and Kuwait.

His promotion was swift. He was assistant private secretary to two foreign secretaries, Mr Selwyn Lloyd and Lord Home, then held senior posts in New York and Geneva before taking over as head of the Arabian department in London.

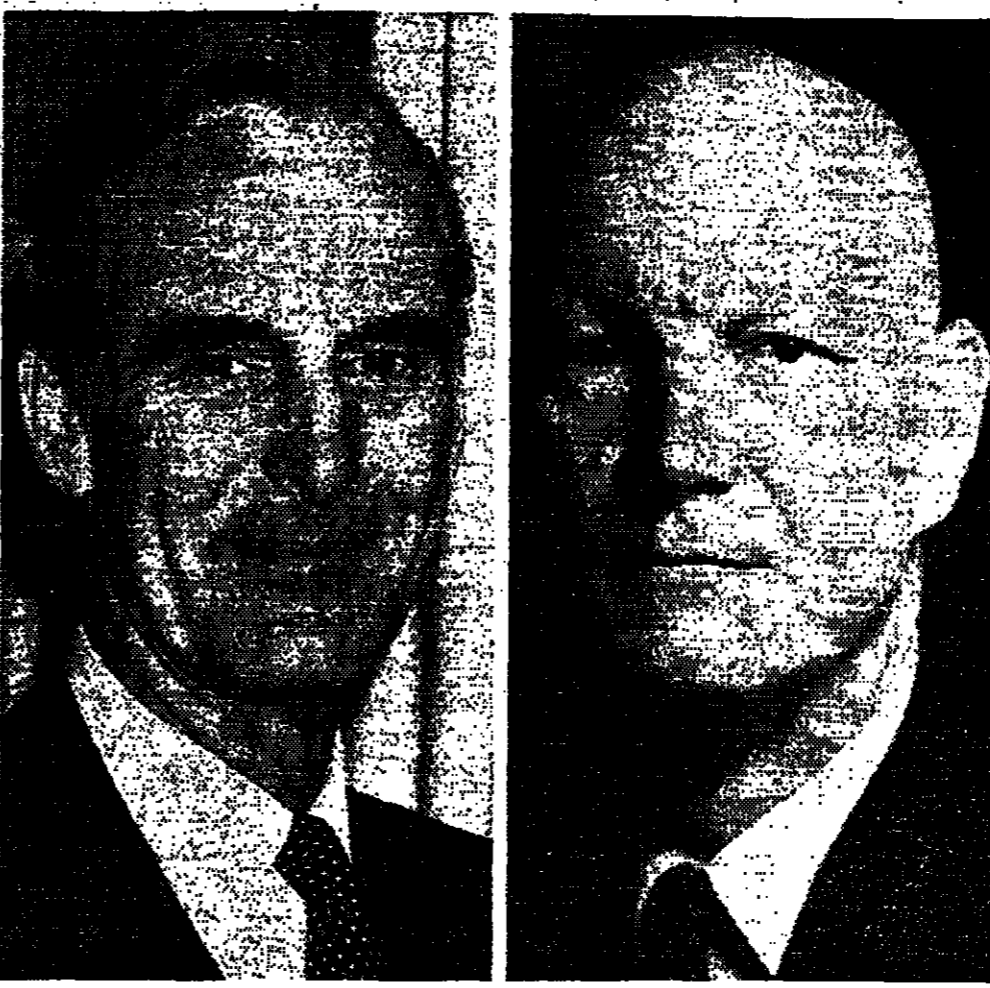
After serving as principal private secretary to Sir Alec Douglas-Home and Mr James Callaghan, he went on to become Ambassador first to Luxembourg and then to Madrid.

His promotion to Permanent Under-Secretary in 1982 came as a surprise because he had fringed several more senior members of the Diplomatic Service.

His successor as Permanent Under-Secretary, Sir Patrick Wright, is also an Arabist. Much of his 30 years in the Diplomatic Service has been spent in the Middle East.

One of his first posts was in Beirut. He later worked in Cairo and Bahrain before becoming head of the Middle East department in London.

Later, like his predecessor, he



Sir Antony Acland (above left), Ambassador-designate to Washington, and Sir Patrick Wright, who is to be Head of the Diplomatic Service, with (below) Sir Oliver Wright, who is retiring for the second time as ambassador in Washington.



Dismissed fire chief for trial

Trevor Martin, former chief fire officer of Derbyshire who was dismissed last September, was committed on bail to Nottingham Crown Court for trial by magistrates at Derby yesterday, accused of obtaining £12,366.14 in car mileage expenses by deception, and the theft of 13 gallons of petrol.

Loss of property advertising forces newspaper to close

By Robin Young

England's oldest daily newspaper outside London, the Sheffield Morning Telegraph, is to close on February 8, after the failure of local estate agencies to renew annual advertising contracts.

The Morning Telegraph has been owned since 1964 by United Newspapers, the group which recently took over the Daily Express and which also owns the Yorkshire Post. The Post may now attempt to increase sales in the Sheffield area.

The Sheffield Telegraph was the first of the penny papers launched in 1855 after the abolition of stamp duty on newspapers. It appeared with the motto: "Servant unto no Master, of no Sect am I", but had a precarious existence from the start. Its first editor was a fly-by-night Scot who skipped town after 10 issues.

Thereafter the Morning Telegraph had only 12 more editors. Outstanding among them was Sir William Leng (1864 to 1905), whose career began with coverage of the disastrous Sheffield flood, when a dam burst and victims' bodies were swept as far away as Doncaster, and continued with exposure of Sheffield trade union outrages.

More recently the Morning Telegraph won national attention with its coverage of the Sheffield "rhino-whip" police corruption case, under the editorship of Mr David Hopkinson (1962-64), who is now

chief night editor of The Times.

Other distinguished journalists who worked for the newspaper include Mr Donald Treford, editor of The Observer, Miss Jean Rook of the Daily Express, Mr Keith Graves of the BBC, and Mr Peter Tinniswood, the author.

The Telegraph subsumed its even older political rival, the Sheffield Daily Independent (founded 1819), in 1938. In recent years there has been an almost uninterrupted decline in circulation, from more than 84,000 in 1960 to barely 30,000 now.

The Morning Telegraph lost £955,000 in 1985, in spite of property advertising worth £1.8 million. Previous losses were £851,000 in 1984 and £724,000 in 1983.

A Hull publisher, Mr Peter Robinson, has announced plans for a free weekly property newsheet and the Morning Telegraph management says that the newspaper would not have sufficient property advertising to contain its losses within acceptable bounds. No fresh sources of revenue could be found, and since a cost-cutting operation in 1982 there was no hope of further economies.

Sheffield Newspapers, is seeking 240 voluntary redundancies by January 13. So far 103 employees have applied to the company.

Buyer for West End theatres

By David Hewson, Arts Correspondent

On the day that Andrew Lloyd Webber's Really Useful Company became the first theatre production organization to be floated publicly, London's West End stage received further proof of its viability with the proposed sale of the Duchess and Garrick theatres.

Both theatres went on the market two months ago, when Gomba, their parent company, was put into receivership in the aftermath of the Johnson Matthey Bank collapse. They are likely to be sold to Stoll Moss for an undisclosed fee, advancing the company's lead in London theatre ownership.

Stoll Moss disclosed yesterday that it had exchanged contracts with the Duchess, which seats 487, and the Garrick, which seats 711. If, as seems likely, the deal goes through, Stoll Moss will own or control 10 West End theatres, four more than its nearest rival, the Maybox group, formerly the Albany company.

It is estimated that a number of would-be purchasers had been looking at the properties before Stoll Moss moved to close the deal yesterday.

The planned sale is unlikely to affect the productions at the two theatres. The Garrick is occupied by No Sex Please We're British, the long-running comedy beloved of Japanese tourists, while the Duchess is staging The Glass Menagerie. Neither show had any financial involvement with Gomba.

The fate of the third Gomba theatre, the Mermaid at Finsbury Dock, which was bought when the original theatre company under Lord Miles collapsed, remains unresolved. The City of London Corporation, which owns the freehold, and Tonche Remnant, the owner of the head lease, are involved in talks about its future.

Really Useful issue, page 19
Tempus, page 21

Guidelines for safer skiing

Thousson Prantice, Science Correspondent

Skiers are warned to take extra precautions to avoid increased risks of injury this winter.

The Chartered Society of Physiotherapy, representing 22,000 British physiotherapists, has issued guidelines on safer skiing, because, it says, too many holidaymakers are returning needing treatment for injuries.

At least one in 30 skiers comes home injured, the society says, but many of the accidents are due to unfit or inexperienced skiers overstretching themselves or wearing wrong clothing.

A survey has shown that 42 per cent of injuries were to the lower limb, particularly the knee, and 17 per cent to the head, face or neck.

The society's ABC of Safer Skiing is available free, on receipt of an SAE, from 14 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4ED.

Claim dropped

A former secretary of Mr Roy Hattersley, deputy leader of the Labour Party, yesterday dropped an unfair dismissal claim concerning her dismissal last year. A London industrial tribunal hearing was cancelled when Miss Margaret Pryor, aged 51, of Islington, north London, withdrew her claim after talks with the arbitration service.

Moore divorce

Bobby Moore former England football captain aged 44, was divorced by his wife, Tina, aged 42, at the London Divorce Court yesterday because of his adultery with an air stewardess, Miss Parlane-Moore, aged 34.

Aircraft debris

The Civil Aviation Authority yesterday started an inquiry after a 4ft section of wing flap thought to have fallen from an aircraft was found on an island in the river Kennet at Burghfield, near Reading, Berkshire.

Interest rises in Woolwich Capital Account.

9.52% = 9.75% = 13.92%

NET PAID HALF YEARLY NET COMPOUNDED ANNUAL RATE GROSS EQUIVALENT C.A.R. FOR BASIC RATE TAXPAYERS

DATA PROTECTION IN MEDICINE

A National Meeting, Oxford, 18 February 1986

If you use medical computing facilities and do not comply with the Act, you are breaking the law.

This Act affects you, your patients, research, industry and the way you will have to work in the future.

Deloitte Haskins & Sells is co-operating inside and outside the NHS to provide seminars which will explore the implications of the DPA to Medicine with a view to forming medical working protocols within the many grey areas.

The speakers are drawn from Medicine, Law, Management and Computing and will present papers covering:

Session 1 - The Law, Medicine and Data Protection
Session 2 - The impact on the patient and effects on medical practice
Session 3 - Analysis of case examples
Session 4 - What you must be doing now and identification of areas for further work.

In addition, there will be side-meetings for professional subgroups covering topics including OSI, encryption, mailboxes, picture transmission, Korner recommendations, laboratory medicine and primary care.

These proceedings will be published by the NHS Training Authority, and will be offered to the Home Office and submitted to DHSS in response to Circular 85/23, on subject access rights.

Future seminars will be arranged in other locations including Scotland, if sufficient demand is indicated by response to this seminar.

Reply as matter of urgency to:
DPA Conference Administration,
Nuffield Department of Clinical Biochemistry,
John Radcliffe Hospital,
Headingley, Oxford,
OX3 9DU, - or call Telecom Gold Mailbox 81-MKD 616

I enclose £40 registration fee payable to DPA Conference Oxford
Please send more information
Please provide accommodation details

Name: _____
Title: _____
Address: _____
Telephone: _____

What better way to start the New Year than with a rise in interest rates?

If you move into a Woolwich Capital Account that's what you'll get.

Our net rate has gone up to 9.52% net which is worth 9.75% p.a. if you leave the interest in.

For basic rate taxpayers that's equivalent to 13.92%.

These are truly exceptional figures for a no risk investment, especially when you consider how simple our terms are.

The minimum investment is just £500 and there's no upper limit to the amount you can invest.

Interest is normally paid every six months but you can take it monthly if you prefer.

When you want to make a withdrawal, it's best to give us 90 days' notice. Then interest is paid right up to the last day. However, you can always have instant access if you need it. You just give up the last 90 days' interest.

There's one exception. If you leave over £10,000 in your account, you can make instant withdrawals without penalty subject to normal branch limits.

So call in at your local Woolwich Branch, or fill in the coupon and send it to: Woolwich Equitable Building Society, Investment Department, FREEPOST, Bexleyheath, Kent DA7 6BP.

The Woolwich Capital Account.

I/We enclose a cheque for £_____ to be invested in a Woolwich Capital Account. With interest added half yearly OR paid as Monthly Income I/We understand the rates may vary. *Min £500.

Please send me information on the Woolwich Capital Account

Woolwich Investor Yes No No stamp required. Tick box if required.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Signature(s) _____

W
WOOLWICH
EQUITABLE BUILDING SOCIETY

You're better off with the Woolwich.

French look to their rail transport strengths on Channel link options

From Diana Geddes Paris

Of the four main contenders for a fixed channel link, the French Government is thought to be most attracted by the twin-bore rail tunnel because of the supreme importance it gives to rail transport, which France considers one of its strengths.

There is, however, no fixed government position yet. Indeed, it is understood that the French have not even held an inter-ministerial meeting on the link since the joint Franco-British evaluation committee reported to the two governments on December 31.

M Jean Aurox, the French Transport Minister, apparently wanted to discuss the options with his British counterpart, Mr Nicholas Ridley, at today's meeting in Paris before reporting back to his colleagues with a view to reaching a joint decision before the planned meeting between Mrs Margaret Thatcher and President Mitterrand on January 20.

Although the "Channel" has not excited nearly as much interest and passion here as in Britain, the French government is nevertheless anxious to get a firm commitment to a particular project before the general election on March 16.

The French Public is generally in favour of some form of fixed cross-Channel link, if only to make Britain feel a more genuine part of Europe. But there would be unlikely to be much gnashing of teeth or, for that matter, much cheering if the project did not go ahead.

The relative lack of importance attributed to the project here has been reflected clearly in limited press coverage. Perhaps that is only natural, however given that a cross-Channel link will simply mean for the French easier access to one rather cold, northern country, for the British it will open up a whole sun-filled continent.

There has been some opposition from French Ferry operators, but it has been much less vocal than that of their British counterparts, and there has been no protest at all from the French environmentalist lobby.

On the other hand, the Nord-Pas de Calais region is strongly in favour, believing that the project would turn what has hitherto tended to be a deprived French backwater into a thriving European crossroads.

France already has plans to extend its high-speed TGV train service from Paris to Cologne via Lille and Brussels. It would therefore be relatively simple to lay an extra leg of track to link the service to a cross-Channel

£400m wanted by British Rail

British Rail has told the Government that it wants to spend £400 million on new equipment - trains, track, terminals and signalling equipment - for a Channel tunnel - (Michael Bailey, Transport Editor, writes).

British Rail has also reached outline agreement with the main Channel link promoters on the operation of through-rail services via a tunnel.

train tunnel. All that would then be required would be a modification of British tracks to take the TGV to London, thus probably assuming French Railways a lion's share of the new cross-Channel traffic.

Four-bore link: Mr Jim Sherwood's Channel Expressway has emerged to become perhaps the strongest contender in the four-horse race for the link (Jeremy Warner, Business Correspondent, writes).

Mr Ridley is expected to urge adoption of Expressway's four-bore tunnel rail and road link at his meeting with M Aurox.

First he must persuade the French Government to abandon its leaning towards the £2.3 billion twin-bore rail-only tunnel proposed by Channel Tunnel Group.

This scheme, which proposes to carry road vehicles through the tunnel on shuttle trains, is also believed to have been found the most economically and technically practical of the four proposals in the recent joint report by officials of both countries.

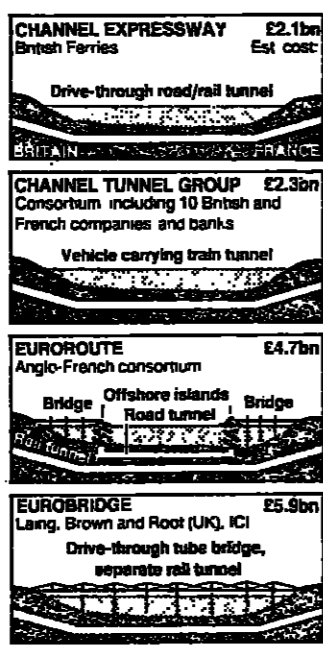
Channel Expressway's powerful backing in the British Government is all the more surprising because Mr Sherwood, whose Sea Containers owns Sealink ferries, emerged as a contender only in April. The other two front-runners, Channel Tunnel Group and Euro-bridge, have been planning their proposals for many years.

French opposition to the American-born Mr Sherwood centres on the paucity of French involvement in his £2.1 billion scheme. Channel Expressway tried to counter this criticism recently by bringing in SCREG, a leading French construction group, as project manager for the French half of the link.

Mr Sherwood has done little in the past year to dampen French suspicion of his scheme, having made several outspoken references to French chauvinism and methods. With the exception of Credit Du Nord, there is no French financial backing for Channel Expressway. American and Japanese backers dominated the seven financial institutions Mr Sherwood recently listed as supporters.

Channel Expressway's plan is the only one that allows motorists to drive all the way in a 30-mile tunnel free from the vagaries of the weather and without having to load their vehicles on and off trains. Channel Expressway is also the only proposer which intends to operate the link once it is built.

The other three contenders consist of contractors whose interest is in constructing the link, but not in its operation.



British sources believe that President Mitterrand may have a sneaking preference for EuroRoute's £4.7 billion combined bridge and tunnel plan.

He is said to be keen to choose the scheme which will create most jobs, in spite of speculation that the joint appraisal concluded that the largely French-designed project was too costly and technically ambitious.

The only proposal that appears to have been ruled out so far is EuroRoute's full bridge. It is thought to be too costly, at £5.9 billion, and too futuristic.

The schemes will be discussed at a Cabinet meeting on Thursday.

One item on the agenda for the meeting between Mr Ridley and M Aurox is a possible compromise which would combine the best of the schemes by Channel Tunnel Group and Channel Expressway.

Channel Expressway's powerful backing in the British Government is all the more surprising because Mr Sherwood, whose Sea Containers owns Sealink ferries, emerged as a contender only in April. The other two front-runners, Channel Tunnel Group and Euro-bridge, have been planning their proposals for many years.

French opposition to the American-born Mr Sherwood centres on the paucity of French involvement in his £2.1 billion scheme. Channel Expressway tried to counter this criticism recently by bringing in SCREG, a leading French construction group, as project manager for the French half of the link.

Mr Sherwood has done little in the past year to dampen French suspicion of his scheme, having made several outspoken references to French chauvinism and methods. With the exception of Credit Du Nord, there is no French financial backing for Channel Expressway. American and Japanese backers dominated the seven financial institutions Mr Sherwood recently listed as supporters.

Channel Expressway's plan is the only one that allows motorists to drive all the way in a 30-mile tunnel free from the vagaries of the weather and without having to load their vehicles on and off trains. Channel Expressway is also the only proposer which intends to operate the link once it is built.

The other three contenders consist of contractors whose interest is in constructing the link, but not in its operation.

Leading article, page 15



Mr Husain Musawi, head of the Islamic Amal Shia fundamentalist group in Lebanon, reading letters at his Baalbek headquarters yesterday from US schoolchildren pleading for the release of American hostages.

The terrorism connection Rationale of Gadaffi's deadly mischief

By Nicholas Ashford, Diplomatic Correspondent

President Reagan has described Colonel Gadaffi, the Libya leader, as "the most dangerous man in the world". As a former suspected target for a Libyan assassination plot, he has reason to hold such views.

Although Mr Reagan may be over-stating the extent of Colonel Gadaffi's power, few people in the West would doubt his capacity to make often deadly mischief.

His foreign adventures, his associations with revolutionary groups and his advocacy of violent methods to deal with Libyan opponents of his regime have given him the image of a tyrant bent on expanding Libya's influence by violent means.

In spite of many apparent inconsistencies - such as his flirtations with the Soviet Union without abandoning his anti-Communist views - there are common threads to his behaviour.

First, he is a staunch opponent of Israel and a passionate supporter of the Palestinian cause. This explains his support for Palestinian organizations, such as the Abu Nidal group, and his praise for acts of terrorism against Israeli targets.

Secondly, he has an obsession about the "imperialist" intention of Western powers, whom

he sees as being in league with Israel; and, linked to this, a belief that "liberation" organizations struggling against imperialism should be aided.

This explains his frequently voiced support for organizations such as the IRA, the Red Brigades in Italy and the Red Army Faction in West Germany, as well as the Sandinista government of Nicaragua and anti-government rebels in El Salvador.

Thirdly, his belief in Muslim unity has led him into war (in Chad), into border disputes with neighbours who do not share his view of a Muslim Union led by Libya, and into political relationships with a disparate variety of Islamic leaders ranging from Idi Amin, former President of Uganda, to the conservative King Hassan of Morocco, with whom he signed a treaty of union in 1984.

Fourthly, his fear of plots to depose him of which there have been at least 15, has led him to be ruthless in his pursuit of political opponents, a number of whom have been tracked down and murdered by agents abroad.

Despite the growing impression that Colonel Gadaffi's hand is behind many recent terrorist attacks, there is often little firm evidence to prove Libyan involvement.

President Reagan met his foreign policy advisers yesterday to discuss the tension with Libya, as the White House scornfully denied Colonel Gadaffi's claim that a US ambassador had been in touch with him.

Mr Larry Speakes, the President's spokesman, also said the Libyan leader's claim that there were no training camps in Libya was "patently untrue". The US had "firm evidence" of camps there that trained terrorists. But Mr Speakes said the US had never suggested that the terrorist had come directly from Libya to the Rome and Vienna airports.

He again urged the estimated 1,500 US citizens in Libya to leave because of the unrest and uncertainty there. And he said all threats to activate Libyan terrorist groups in the US had been taken seriously. "We do remain on guard."

The Reagan Administration is still trying to persuade its European allies to join economic sanctions against Libya, and will be consulting them on concerted action in the next few days. But there seems to be growing disappointment and exasperation here that little is likely to come of this, and that Europe is unwilling to cut or reduce its trade with Libya.

Similarly, while still reviewing military options, the Administration appears to be backing away from its earlier threats. The White House has dismissed talk of a naval blockade as nonsense, and senior officials make much of the damage a military strike would do to US standing in the Arab world and to the Middle East peace process.

Until a few weeks ago, you could hear views of Sabri el-Banna - alias Abu Nidal - by pressing the air bell on the Century Plaza Hotel here. Mr Murdoch said his six Metro Media Inc. television stations would be welded "into a secure base from which to deliver an extensive and successful programming service" that would "give the American people a fresher choice".

"We at Fox are at this moment deeply involved in this work to put shape and form on original programmes, constructed specifically to compete, and increase the audiences of all stations who play them," Mr Murdoch said.

"Our Fox television broadcasting division will be looking at Fox studios as only one source of material. Indeed, we will not only buy from the whole universe of suppliers, but will happily consider, indeed seek, programme partnerships with other broadcasters and interested parties."

Speaking for the first time as the new owner of Twentieth Century-Fox Film Corporation and six big television stations, Mr Rupert Murdoch, the publisher, said his Fox television network would be in the vanguard of a new era of competition in the United States.

Delivering the keynote address to the Association of Independent Television Stations at the Century Plaza Hotel here, Mr Murdoch said his six Metro Media Inc. television stations would be welded "into a secure base from which to deliver an extensive and successful programming service" that would "give the American people a fresher choice".

Damascus puzzle of Abu Nidal's office

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

condemned their respective leadership to death, and Mr Arafat achieved a victory day to discuss the tension with Libya, as the White House scornfully denied Colonel Gadaffi's claim that a US ambassador had been in touch with him.

Mr Larry Speakes, the President's spokesman, also said the Libyan leader's claim that there were no training camps in Libya was "patently untrue". The US had "firm evidence" of camps there that trained terrorists. But Mr Speakes said the US had never suggested that the terrorist had come directly from Libya to the Rome and Vienna airports.

He again urged the estimated 1,500 US citizens in Libya to leave because of the unrest and uncertainty there. And he said all threats to activate Libyan terrorist groups in the US had been taken seriously. "We do remain on guard."

The Reagan Administration is still trying to persuade its European allies to join economic sanctions against Libya, and will be consulting them on concerted action in the next few days. But there seems to be growing disappointment and exasperation here that little is likely to come of this, and that Europe is unwilling to cut or reduce its trade with Libya.

Similarly, while still reviewing military options, the Administration appears to be backing away from its earlier threats. The White House has dismissed talk of a naval blockade as nonsense, and senior officials make much of the damage a military strike would do to US standing in the Arab world and to the Middle East peace process.

The walls inside bore no illustrations or "martyr's" portraits, not even an exhibition of sorts in 1972, when they murdered Ahmed Abdul Ghafoor, Mr el-Banna's second in command, on the ground that he had made off with a large amount of PLO cash.

Calling his dissident faction the "Al Fatah Revolutionary Council", Abu Nidal set out first with Israeli assistance and then with Syria's support - to eliminate Palestinians who maintained their belief that a peaceful solution alone could bring about a settlement in the Middle East. Issam Sartawi, Saeed Hamami and other PLO men who expressed such "treacherous" convictions were assassinated.

Apparently anxious to crush Mr Arafat's entire guerrilla movement, Abu Nidal sent his men to kill Israel's Ambassador to London in the summer of 1982. The attempted assassination prompted Israel's invasion of Lebanon, an experience which both the PLO and Israel itself came to regret.

A rapprochement between Iraq and the PLO - and, more importantly, a promise from the Americans that they would look more kindly upon President Saddam Hussein's regime if he dispensed with Abu Nidal - forced Mr el-Banna out of Baghdad and into Damascus.

There he variously issued threats against Western nations, including Britain, and gave his moral support to opponents of President Mubarak of Egypt. Syria, it transpired, was quite prepared to use him for its own purposes.

Colonel Gadaffi is on record as praising Abu Nidal, and it is not surprising that the most recent hijackings and airport killings have been laid at his door. For a time, he was rumored to have died of cancer but - like others of the West's most hated enemies - he re-emerged very much alive.

Why terror continues, page 14

Guards saw inmates kill three in jail mutiny

Moundsville, West Virginia (AFP) - Prison guards held hostage by mutineers last week were forced to watch the killing of at least three convicts accused of being informers.

Sixteen guards, held unharmed for two days until the authorities agreed to talk about the 200 mutineers' complaints of overcrowding and unsanitary conditions, were ordered not to talk about horrific scenes during their ordeal. But eyewitness reports began to leak out at the weekend.

Blood-stained convicts with makeshift knives cut the throats of the accused traitors, ripped out their hearts and paraded through cellblocks, one guard alleged. He claimed that a fellowwarder was forced to watch the killing of a convicted murderer.

Another guard was in hospital suffering from shock. One of his colleagues claimed he saw the killing of another convicted murderer, whose throat was slit and whose body was then allegedly kicked from one end of the cell block to another.

The state Governor, March Moore, said after the last of the hostage guards were freed on Friday that immunity for taking part in the mutiny would not cover any inmates found guilty of murdering fellow-convicts.

He said that the accused stool-pigeons had been subjected to mock trials, with the accusers allegedly playing the role of "judge, jury and executioner".

The Hague (Reuters) - The Netherlands, current President of the European Community, will press other members at a ministers' meeting this week to move towards common road speed limits, the Transport Ministry said.

Mrs Neelie Smit-Kroes, the Transport Minister, favours a flexible range of limits, keeping speeds low on busy roads but high where traffic is light and road conditions good.

Copenhagen (AFP) - A 38-year-old doctor has been charged with the rape and attempted rape of a large number of women he drugged during night house calls, police in the Copenhagen suburb of Lyngby said.

Strike ended

Dhaka, Bangladesh (AP) - About 40,000 government doctors, engineers and agricultural staff ended a 15-day strike claiming to have won employment concessions in talks with President Ershad.

Raid torture

Clayton, Missouri (AP) - Robbers pulled out the teeth of a hotel manager with pliers to force him to hand over the keys to an office where \$1,600 (£1,100) was kept.

President Doe

General Samuel Doe, aged 35, swears in yesterday for a six-year term as President of Liberia after widely contested national elections last October. After the ceremony in Monrovia he ordered the release of 19 people held in connection with a coup attempt last November.

Nuclear protest

Amberg, West Germany (AP) - One hundred and thirty four anti-nuclear demonstrators were arrested after damaging the facade of a jail here holding the protesters who allegedly clashed with police at a construction site for a nuclear waste-recycling plant about 18 miles away.

Minister quits

Lima (Reuters) - Señor Mario Barreto resigned as Peru's Agriculture Minister after popular protests over widespread shortages of beef, chicken, potatoes and rice.

Border attack

Managua (AP) - President Ortega of Nicaragua accused Honduran soldiers of attacking an Army patrol near Paso de Canoas, two miles inside Nicaragua, on Sunday.

Shuttle hitch

Washington - The space shuttle Columbia's launch was put off for the third time in 19 days, mainly because of mechanical problems. It is now due to blast off today.

Soldiers killed

Colombo (Reuters) - Six Sri Lankan soldiers were killed when their vehicle was blown up by a land mine planted by Tamil guerrillas in Vavuniya.

Opening up

Lagos (AFP) - President Babangida said he would reopen Nigeria's land borders, closed in 1984, with a "minimum of delay".

Stroke of luck

Wellington (Reuters) - A beach cricketer stumped a 6th-level shark with his bat after it threatened his nine-year-old son while he was surfing in southern New Zealand.

Iraq claims gains in attack on islands

Baghdad (Reuters) - Iraq yesterday said its troops had recaptured parts of the southern Majnoon Islands, seized by Iranian forces in a Gulf War offensive early in 1984.

A High Command communiqué said two brigades of the Iraqi Third Army Corps launched a surprise attack overnight and "liberated" several miles of enemy-held territory, killing hundreds of Iranians and wounding many more.

President Saddam Hussein said in a broadcast speech marking Army Day that any fresh Iranian offensive would only end in catastrophe for Tehran's leaders.

EEC call to go at same speed

The Hague (Reuters) - The Netherlands, current President of the European Community, will press other members at a ministers' meeting this week to move towards common road speed limits, the Transport Ministry said.

Mrs Neelie Smit-Kroes, the Transport Minister, favours a flexible range of limits, keeping speeds low on busy roads but high where traffic is light and road conditions good.

Rape charges

Copenhagen (AFP) - A 38-year-old doctor has been charged with the rape and attempted rape of a large number of women he drugged during night house calls, police in the Copenhagen suburb of Lyngby said.

Strike ended

Dhaka, Bangladesh (AP) - About 40,000 government doctors, engineers and agricultural staff ended a 15-day strike claiming to have won employment concessions in talks with President Ershad.

Raid torture

Clayton, Missouri (AP) - Robbers pulled out the teeth of a hotel manager with pliers to force him to hand over the keys to an office where \$1,600 (£1,100) was kept.

President Doe

General Samuel Doe, aged 35, swears in yesterday for a six-year term as President of Liberia after widely contested national elections last October. After the ceremony in Monrovia he ordered the release of 19 people held in connection with a coup attempt last November.

Nuclear protest

Amberg, West Germany (AP) - One hundred and thirty four anti-nuclear demonstrators were arrested after damaging the facade of a jail here holding the protesters who allegedly clashed with police at a construction site for a nuclear waste-recycling plant about 18 miles away.

Minister quits

Lima (Reuters) - Señor Mario Barreto resigned as Peru's Agriculture Minister after popular protests over widespread shortages of beef, chicken, potatoes and rice.

Border attack

Managua (AP) - President Ortega of Nicaragua accused Honduran soldiers of attacking an Army patrol near Paso de Canoas, two miles inside Nicaragua, on Sunday.

Shuttle hitch

Washington - The space shuttle Columbia's launch was put off for the third time in 19 days, mainly because of mechanical problems. It is now due to blast off today.

Soldiers killed

Colombo (Reuters) - Six Sri Lankan soldiers were killed when their vehicle was blown up by a land mine planted by Tamil guerrillas in Vavuniya.

Opening up

Lagos (AFP) - President Babangida said he would reopen Nigeria's land borders, closed in 1984, with a "minimum of delay".

Stroke of luck

Wellington (Reuters) - A beach cricketer stumped a 6th-level shark with his bat after it threatened his nine-year-old son while he was surfing in southern New Zealand.

Pineapples used to pelt police

From Neil Kelly Bangkok

Thai riot police did not react when farmers protesting against the Government's agricultural policies pelted them with pineapples outside the Prime Minister's office yesterday.

Earlier, farmers driving lorries laden with pineapples tried to break through the gates but were persuaded to withdraw.

The farmers' protests have been generally peaceful, but there are fears they may get out of hand as some 3,000 rice, pineapple and sugar farmers were joined by others from more distant areas of Thailand. Police have also been warned that 11 farmers from the south, hit by the collapse of the international market, are on their way to join the Bangkok rallies.

Thai farmers have complained for months that prices are far below production costs, and that Government attempts to manipulate higher prices are not working.

The problems are reflected in the restlessness now overtaking the coalition Government, in which some parties want changes. Mr Chuanchee Vasuak, the deputy Finance Minister, acknowledging the possibility of mass resignations from the Government, said: "If we think things cannot go on this way, why should we stay and go down with the Prime Minister?"

Scales fault led to US atom death

From Trevor Fishlock Los Angeles

The nuclear plant tank that leaked poison gas and a mildly radioactive substance in Oklahoma at the weekend was accidentally overfilled because the pointer on a set of weighing scales jammed.

When workers realized that the 14-ton steel tank was overfilled with a uranium compound they tried to heat it to reduce the contents.

This was an untested procedure. The heat raised the pressure in the tank and it ruptured. One man was killed by toxic fumes and more than 30 people were injured.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is investigating the accident at the Kerr-McGee nuclear fuel processing plant in Gore, which has been closed.

The tank was designed to hold 27,500lb of uranium hexafluoride, but it was filled with about 29,500lb. Workers heated it to convert the contents to gas and to bleed off the excess.

On contact with air, the leaking uranium hexafluoride was converted to radioactive uranyl fluoride, which settled on the ground in the plant, and highly corrosive hydrofluoric acid, which drifted as vapour.

Checks on radiation levels around the plant continued yesterday. A state health official said that there was no significant contamination.

Murdoch spearheads TV change

From Ivor Davis Los Angeles

Speaking for the first time as the new owner of Twentieth Century-Fox Film Corporation and six big television stations, Mr Rupert Murdoch, the publisher, said his Fox television network would be in the vanguard of a new era of competition in the United States.

Delivering the keynote address to the Association of Independent Television Stations at the Century Plaza Hotel here, Mr Murdoch said his six Metro Media Inc. television stations would be welded "into a secure base from which to deliver an extensive and successful programming service" that would "give the American people a fresher choice".

"We at Fox are at this moment deeply involved in this work to put shape and form on original programmes, constructed specifically to compete, and increase the audiences of all stations who play them," Mr Murdoch said.

"Our Fox television broadcasting division will be looking at Fox studios as only one source of material. Indeed, we will not only buy from the whole universe of suppliers, but will happily consider, indeed seek, programme partnerships with other broadcasters and interested parties."

Strong man to lead Yugoslavia

From Dassa Trevisan Belgrade

Mr Branko Mikulic, who has the reputation of being a hardliner, has been designated as Yugoslavia's Prime Minister in the reshuffle due in spring when the present Government's four-year term expires.

Mr Mikulic has often been strongly in favour of action against all kinds of dissent. He is currently one of the eight members of the Yugoslav state presidency, the collective body at the head of the state. In his native Bosnia he is regarded as a strong figure. As head of the Winter Olympic Committee, he organized the games in Sarajevo two years ago which won special recognition for him both at home and abroad.

Obviously in the next four

years Yugoslavia will need a strong personality at the head of the Government to carry through the recovery programme and deal with galloping inflation, which the present Government of Mrs Milka Plavic has been unable to curb.

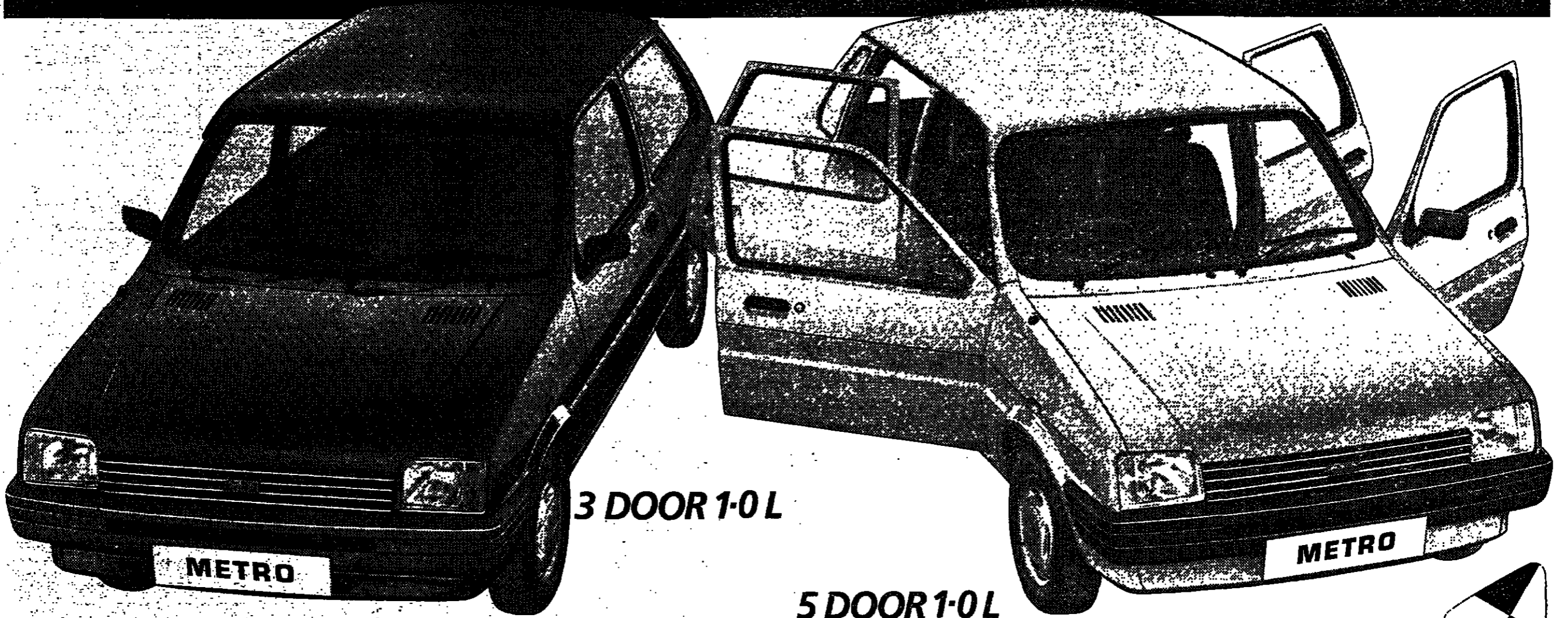
The Government was recently criticized by the state presidency for failing to halt inflation, which last year reached a record 80 per cent. Living standards have continued to fall, and unemployment, at some 1.2 million, is almost 15 per cent of the labour force, the highest in Europe.

Selecting a new federal prime minister is the prerogative of the state presidency, which earlier failed to agree on the candidature of Mr Ivan Stambolic, put forward by Serbia.



Mr Branko Mikulic, the Yugoslav Prime Minister-designate.

A METRO 5 DOOR FOR THE PRICE OF A 3 DOOR.



Right now, on selected models of Metro, Maestro or Montego, we'll give you either better specification or a larger engine size for exactly the same price.

On the Metro we know there is one thing we can give you more than anything else to add to the value for money of a 3 door Metro – 2 more doors.

So with the new Austin Rover "Go One Better" deal we'll give you the 5 door Metro 1.0 L for the price of the 3 door 1.0 L model. You'll be going one better to the tune of £176.

Naturally, we'll give you the same deal on the Metro City X, 5 doors for the price of 3.

So if you want to buy the best selling

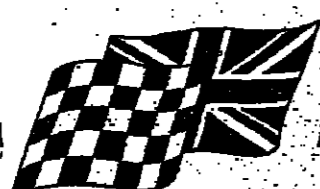
British small car – 3 door or 5 door – there's never been a better time to buy one.

These are just some of the tremendous value offers available from your Austin Rover dealer. Talk to him now! Even if you stick to your original choice, he'll make sure you drive home happy.

METRO

GO ONE BETTER

Just remember you can go one better with Austin Rover – the only range of family cars designed and built in Britain.



NOW WE'RE MOTORING

AUSTIN ROVER



Cars shown: Metro 1.0 L 3 door, Metro 1.0 L 5 door. Offers shown are subject to dealer stock availability. Prices correct at time of going to press. For further information see Prestel page no. 247472. NATIONWIDE CAR RENTAL THROUGH BRITISH CAR RENTAL TEL. 0203 77223. AUSTIN ROVER TAX FREE SALES INFORMATION TEL. 021 475 2101 ext. 220.

Botswana border tense as Pretoria troops mass after bomb blast

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg

Tension rose on South Africa's border with Botswana yesterday after the weekend landmine explosion which killed two whites. South African troops were reported pouring into the area as units of the Botswana Defence Force were being sent to the frontier.

At the same time, military headquarters in Windhoek, Namibia, disclosed that South African troops had carried out another raid in southern Angola.

A spokesman described it as a follow-up operation and said that four South West Africa People's Organisation guerrillas had been killed and arms and equipment seized. The South African troops had returned to Namibia.

Windhoek radio said that the raid followed the killing by Swapo insurgents of an Ovambo civilian near the border.

In Maputo, President Machel of Mozambique told diplomats that South Africa continued to give support to the MNR rebel movement despite the 1984 non-aggression accord signed by the two countries. He described South Africa as the base of armed banditry and terrorism against Mozambique.

And on the border of South Africa and land-locked Lesotho, South Africa was maintaining its economic squeeze on the tiny state, which last week accused Pretoria at the UN of mounting a raid in December in which nine people, six of them South African refugees, were killed.

South African officials are allowing only Basotho workers returning to South Africa after the Christmas holidays to cross the border and are meticulously searching all vehicles, causing serious delays in the delivery of food and other essentials.

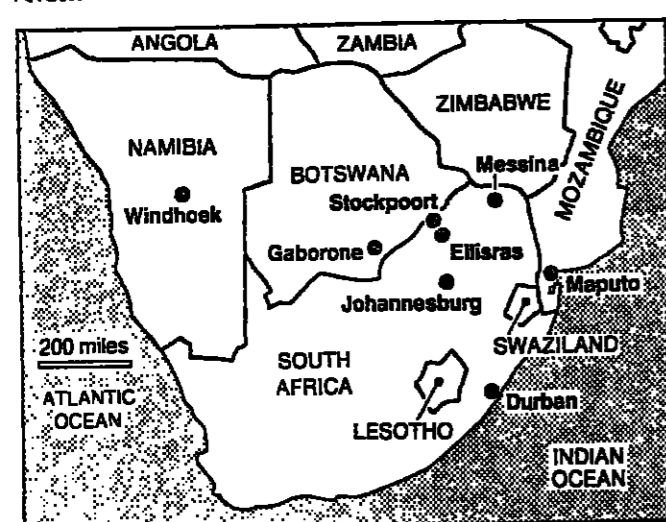
The South African Foreign Ministry has said that the steps have been taken because of intelligence reports of an African National Congress guerrilla build-up in Lesotho.

The troop build-up on the Botswana border came within hours of South Africa's bluntest warning yet that it would strike across its frontiers in retaliation for a series of landmine blasts which have claimed nine civilian lives in five weeks. In addition, five people were killed and more than 60 injured when a bomb exploded in a shopping centre at Amanzimtoti, near Durban, two days before Christmas.

The ultraright wing is baying for revenge. General Magnus Malan, the Defence Minister, has said: "Landmines planted on public roads are not aimed at any specific target but at all members of the public. After deliberation, the Government will act in order to fight this evil."

A special South African force is already operating from the Stockport border post on the Botswana frontier, close to where the latest mine blast occurred. A military spokesman at nearby Ellisras said: "Although there are signs that it was planted by a single person, we are taking no chances and a thorough search has been launched over a wide area."

In Gabarone, the Botswana Government denied that it allowed ANC guerrillas to operate from its territory. A statement said: "Botswana categorically rejects any suggestion that security forces here have co-operated with individuals engaged in operations against neighbouring states."



Mrs Imelda Marcos distributing election campaign T-shirts yesterday at an election rally for her husband, the President of the Philippines, at Taytay just east of Manila.

Aquino pledges action on debt

From Paul Routledge, Manila

An opposition victory in the Philippines presidential election next month will lead to a renegotiation of the country's huge foreign debt, the presidential contender, Mrs Corazon Aquino, said yesterday. In her first major pronouncement on the economy, the leading opposition candidate told a packed meeting of businessmen in Manila: "Beyond a certain point, respect for market forces must yield to the demands of conscience."

She said that if President Marcos is ousted in the February 7 poll: "We shall vigorously seek to renegotiate the terms of our foreign debt. Our economy cannot possibly endure, nor our people long accept, a situation where nearly half of our export earnings must go to interest payments alone, and for loans that have benefited only a favoured few."

There is conflict about just how much Asia's most indebted nation actually owes. Mrs Aquino said yesterday that it could be US\$26 billion (£18 billion) or \$30 billion if not more. The Government insists it was just over \$25.5 billion at the end of September. Whatever the true figure, the future course of Filipino international finance policy is likely to become more of an election issue. President Marcos has dismissed his rivals as "obviously too weak to cope with our security and economic problems."

Attempt to achieve self-reliance

Boost for Canberra's armoury

The crisis in Anzus between New Zealand and the US over warship visits came at a time when Australia, the third partner in the alliance, had begun a reappraisal of its defence policies. STEPHEN TAYLOR reports from Canberra.

The only successful invasion of Australia was by Britain in 1788. No other nation appears to have entertained the idea since Japan bombed Darwin in 1942 and then dismissed it as too difficult. But the trauma of that experience has figured in Australian strategic planning ever since.

The war-weaned Canberra once and for all from the notion that Britain was its first line of defence. That role in Australian consciousness passed to the US for an era that embraced the Vietnam War and lasted until a watershed 1976 White Paper pointed the way to an Australia committed to Anzus and other regional alliances but ultimately self-reliant.

AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE Part 2

The biggest involves the replacement of the Mirage 1110-D in air defence and tactical support squadrons by the most advanced and expensive American aircraft, the F-18 Hornet. The first two Hornets were made in the US, while the remaining 73 are being manufactured and assembled here in a project involving 17 Australian companies.

In August Mr Kim Beazley, the fast-rising young Defence Minister, announced the decision to proceed with a second major defence programme, the construction of five submarines at an estimated cost of around \$A2,600 million (£1,250 million) by a West German or a Swedish company.

Considerable though these projects are, a crucial element in Australian strategic planning may lie with another concept, one not yet fully developed but with the potential to plug an enormous gap in defence capability - surveillance of the vast northern coastline. An experimental over-the-horizon radar system known as Jindalee has been undergoing trials at Alice Springs for several years. Developed by local scientists on initial US expertise, the experimental stage is said by Canberra officials to have been extremely successful and Mr Beazley last month announced that Jindalee would be turned over to the Defence Force and put into operation this year.

Table with 3 columns: Year, AUS\$, % of GDP, % increase on previous year in real terms. Data for 1975, 1980, 1985.

Current defence spending is 2.9 per cent of GDP, compared with 6 per cent in the US and more than 5 per cent in Britain. The following is a table on defence expenditure for four years:

Uganda groups cling to power

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi

Three weeks after the signing of a peace agreement designed to bring back unity to Uganda, the country remains divided into zones controlled by power groups.

Few provisions of the agreement have been implemented, and there is no sign of accord between the Military Council set up by the soldiers who staged a coup last July and the guerrillas of the National Resistance Army who control a large area of the south-west of the country.

The Uganda Freedom Movement, one of the smaller guerrilla groups operating before the coup, has its own area south of Kampala. Here armed members of the Uganda Army are based, and civilians have escaped the killings and harassment widespread in other areas near Kampala.

Fighting between the Uganda Army and the NRA has stopped, but each maintains armed readiness. The NRA controls main roads west of Kampala, cutting links with land-locked Rwanda and Burundi, and the NRA refuses to repatriate Uganda Army soldiers captured in its area.

The agreement signed in Nairobi on December 17 after months of negotiation provides for the NRA to take half of the seats on the Military Council, with its leader, Mr Yoweri Museveni, becoming its deputy chairman.

It also provides for all troops to be withdrawn from Kampala, and for the Army to be disbanded so that a smaller, more efficient force can be formed and trained.

None of these provisions has been carried out, and Mr Museveni has stayed away from Kampala, waiting for the Military Council to end the excesses by unruly troops.

Last weekend was comparatively quiet in Kampala, giving the impression that the situation is improving slowly.

But it was no surprise when the presidents of Kenya and Tanzania declined an invitation to visit Kampala. They are clearly unhappy at the lack of real progress towards unity.

Following last week's order imposing censorship on reports of incidents involving the security forces, a Kampala journalist, Mr Henry Gombya, was in hiding yesterday after two Land Rover full of troops, sent by General Basilio Okello, the Army commander, went to his office.

Talks on missing GIs open in Hanoi

Hanoi (Reuters) - American and Vietnamese officials met for three hours yesterday at the highest level since the end of the war between the two nations for talks on hundreds of missing US servicemen.

The US assistant Secretary of Defence, Mr Richard Armitage, said there had been "in-depth discussions of all aspects... to include how we might accelerate progress toward resolution of this issue."

Mr Armitage, head of a seven-member delegation that included the assistant Secretary of State, Mr Paul Wolfowitz, said that another meeting will be held today, this time with the Foreign Minister, Mr Nguyen Co Thach.

The deputy Foreign Minister, Mr Hoang Bich Son, led the Vietnamese side at yesterday's talks. The Americans return to Bangkok today after a 24-hour visit.

Vietnamese officials, who asked not to be identified, said that the Americans yesterday rejected proposals for visits to the site of a crashed US bomber and also to a villa that Hanoi had offered to house a permanent US liaison office.

Vietnam said earlier that it would return human remains presumed to be those of Americans. Hanoi returned 39 bodies in 1985, making a total of 123 since 1975.

The US says that 1,797 American servicemen went missing in Vietnam or off its coasts during the war.

Western diplomats said that Hanoi hoped that faster accounting of the missing would lead to renewed diplomatic relations, and also hoped for an end to an economic embargo by the US and other countries who have demanded that Vietnam withdraw its troops from Cambodia.

Co-operation on the issue of missing Americans quickened in August when Vietnam said it would solve the matter unilaterally within two years. But Vietnamese leaders emphasized that a reciprocal gesture from Washington, such as the current visit, would be the key to the fullest possible accounting.

The State Department spokesman Mr Charles Redman, said in Washington last week that the current talks would deal only with the issue of missing Americans.

The US lists 2,441 Americans missing in all of South East Asia as a result of the Indo-China conflict.

Kasparov waits for ruling on rematch

By Raymond Keene

The world chess champion, Gary Kasparov, has denied reports that on Sunday he refused publicly to play the match against Anatoly Karpov stipulated by the world chess federation, Fide.

The match has been set by Fide to start on February 10, and rival bids to stage the event have come from London and Leningrad.

Although Kasparov has stated repeatedly that the interval of three months between the previous match and the return is too small he said yesterday morning on the telephone from Moscow that he has not yet refused to play and is still waiting for a ruling by the Soviet chess federation.

The controversial president of Fide, Mr Florencio Campomanes of the Philippines, is flying to Moscow today apparently to try to resolve the looming crisis.

Mr Campomanes has said that he will announce the venue for the world title match by January 13.

Cancellation of this match would be seen as a severe blow to the reputation of Mr Campomanes. Indication from the Fide headquarters in Lucerne point to the strong possibility that he will try to strip Kasparov of his world title this week if he does not confirm his willingness to contest the match.

Ministers to appear at spy hearing

Oslo (Reuters) - Mr Sveinn Stray, the Norwegian Foreign Minister and Mr Anders Sjaastad, the Defence Minister are to be questioned in the Supreme Court during the re-examination of evidence presented in the trial last year that led to a 20-year jail term for the Norwegian KGB spy, Arne Treholt.

Lawyers representing Treholt, who plans to appeal against the sentence, have requested a full re-examination of evidence.

At yesterday hearing, defence lawyers focused on an envelope which secret police said during the trial contained \$50,000 (£35,000) paid by the KGB to Treholt, a former junior government minister and senior diplomat.

Treholt was convicted in June 1985 for having passed to Soviet agents top-secret information on Nato and Norwegian defence strategy and troop strength.

Witch lifts a gloomy spell for Italians

Rome (AFP) - The Befana, a friendly witch who fills the well-polished shoes of good children with sweets at Epiphany, returned to Italy yesterday after the Government rested the holiday, which was scrapped with six others eight years ago.

The Befana, who flies around on a broomstick, was everywhere at once in Rome on Sunday, handing out sweets.

The most dramatic appearance was when a Befana flew on her broomstick from the top of the Colosseum.

The Befana dates back hundreds of years. In the last century, groups of children, one dressed as the Befana and other singing and blowing trumpets, paraded through the streets, knocking on doors for sweets and trinkets.

Naughty children traditionally find lumps of coal in their shoes. But these are also welcome, as they are made of black sugar.

Shcharansky back in jail

Jerusalem (Reuters) - The Soviet Jewish dissident Mr Anatoly Shcharansky, has been sentenced to a new six-month term in the jail of a Soviet labour camp, his wife said yesterday.

Mr Shcharansky, aged 38, was sentenced in 1977 to three years in prison and 10 years in a labour camp on charges of spying for the United States.

His wife Avital, who lives in Israel, said she has recently heard from relatives in Moscow that her husband was sentenced in October to a new prison term in the Ural Mountains labour camp.

She has been told that the sentence was imposed because Mr Shcharansky went on a hunger strike to protest at not receiving his mail.

US radio woos Europe again

From Michael Binyon, Washington

Jazz, pop music, news, comment and scenes from the everyday life of ordinary Americans: this is the fare of Washington's new 24-hour radio service that began broadcasting yesterday in an effort to counter the negative view of the United States and correct anti-American "misconceptions" in France and West Germany.

Transmissions, which began on a limited basis over cable in October, will now be easily audible for 10 hours a day on the more popular wave band in the Munich region.

The broadcasts, in English, will not be heard yet in Britain. They are part of an effort to explain US policy and attitudes at a time when Moscow is making propaganda inroads among America's European allies.

"VOA-Europe will help correct the information deficit about the US... among millions of young people who have grown up since World War II, the Marshall Plan and the establishment of NATO," Mr

Charles Wick, director of the US Information Agency that controls VOA, said in the autumn. "They are deeply interested in the US but have misconceptions about our country and people."

Mr Wick, a leading conservative and close friend of President Reagan who has transformed VOA into a more openly partisan and combative service, added: "Some may not understand how fully we share culture, values, traditions and a commitment to the common defence of freedom."

The new service has also started in Paris on FM radio. It will be expanded later, carrying programmes in German, French, Italian and Spanish.

PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE

Kenya: Otieno Mak'Onyango

By Caroline Moorehead

Otieno Mak'Onyango, former Assistant Managing Editor of The Sunday Standard, a leading Kenyan newspaper, has been in detention since August 17, 1982, on suspicion that he was involved in the unsuccessful coup by members of the Kenya Air Force.

Initially he was accused of treason, but the charges against him were eventually dropped and he was released - only to be rearrested immediately and held under the Preservation of Public Security Act (Section 83) which allows people to be detained indefinitely without charge or trial. Many people in Kenya believe that he owes his continuing imprisonment to a mistake of identity, and that he has been confused with Patrick Mak'Onyango, a public relations officer with the Voice of Kenya, who went to Uganda shortly after the attempted coup. Embarrassment over their mistake, it is said, may now be preventing the authorities from ordering his release.

Conditions for political detainees in Kenya are more severe than for other prisoners. Mr Mak'Onyango is allowed only one visit a year.

Gyorky Krasso, the Hungarian economist, one of The Times 12 prisoners of conscience of 1985 who are now free, is not, as stated last week, on a temporary passport to be with his seriously ill brother.

Seven die in fights at Indian festival

Delhi (AFP Reuters) - At least seven people have been killed and several injured in clashes at a kite-flying festival in the west Indian city of Ahmedabad.

Police fired tear gas and guns to quell the mobs, which had also set fire to shops and vehicles, the Press Trust of India (PTI) said.

The city administration imposed a curfew in the old district. The cause of the clashes was not known.

The city last year was the scene of Hindu-Muslim confrontation and violence between higher and lower caste Hindus over a government policy allowing quotas for the lower caste in jobs and education.

In Punjab, gunmen wounded two shopkeepers in the Sikh holy city of Amritsar yesterday after three others were shot in mounting violence. PTI said the shopkeepers were injured when suspected extremists opened fire in the old quarter of the city near the Golden Temple, the Sikhs' holiest shrine.

In an earlier incident, gunmen opened fire and wounded three people in the morning at a bus station in Sangrur district.

Hundreds of members of the militant All India Sikh Students Federation meanwhile blocked traffic in Amritsar and Jalandhar yesterday in protest against the arrest of a Sikh leader in neighbouring Haranya state last week. PTI said.

Police in Jalandhar forced some 400 AISSF supporters to free four buses from Haranya and one from Delhi.

The latest attacks came as Punjab's ruling Akali Dal party urged the Chief Minister, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, to use a firm hand against Sikh hardliners when it met yesterday.

Paris mission to Poland

Paris (Reuters) - A French minister is to visit Poland this week for the first time since the imposition of martial law in December 1981. The French Government announced yesterday.

The 36-hour visit to Warsaw by the Secretary of State, M Jean-Michel Baylet, follows a controversial meeting in Paris last month between President

Mitterrand and the Polish leader, General Jaruzelski.

M Baylet, who will arrive in Warsaw tomorrow evening, will lead the French side at the first meeting since 1981 of a Franco-Polish intergovernmental commission on economic co-operation. French sources said they might also use his visit to meet Poles outside the Government, such as Church leaders.

The visit failed to resolve the main differences between the countries. Sir Geoffrey told a news conference in Lagos that there were limits to what Britain could do about Nigerians concerns.

Nigeria wants Mr Dikko extradited and has also raised the case of a former Nigerian Army major jailed for his part in the kidnap plot.

Britain is pressing for a restoration of full diplomatic relations; each country withdrew its high commissioner over the kidnap attempt.

Britain says that the Dikko extradition request cannot be settled until after an appeal by the former minister against a British decision refusing him political asylum. On the jailed major, it says it cannot interfere with the process of law.

Lagos envoy here to forge ties

The Nigerian Foreign Minister, Professor Bolaji Akinyemi, arrives in Britain today to discuss the delicate political and economic relations between Britain and its biggest trading partner in black Africa. (Reuters reports from London).

During the two-day official visit, the first by a Nigerian minister since the coup that brought General Ibrahim Babangida to power in August, Professor Akinyemi will meet Mrs Margaret Thatcher and the Foreign Secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe.

Sir Geoffrey went to Nigeria in September to seek a restoration of full diplomatic ties, which were downgraded after an abortive attempt in 1984 to kidnap the former Nigerian Transport Minister, Mr Umaru Dikko, and smuggle him to Lagos to face corruption charges.

The visit failed to resolve the main differences between the countries. Sir Geoffrey told a news conference in Lagos that there were limits to what Britain could do about Nigerians concerns.

Nigeria wants Mr Dikko extradited and has also raised the case of a former Nigerian Army major jailed for his part in the kidnap plot.

Britain is pressing for a restoration of full diplomatic relations; each country withdrew its high commissioner over the kidnap attempt.

Britain says that the Dikko extradition request cannot be settled until after an appeal by the former minister against a British decision refusing him political asylum. On the jailed major, it says it cannot interfere with the process of law.

British officials say that the talks will cover the full range of bilateral issues, but economic issues will be prominent.

Packed carriages signal Japan's Year of Tiger

From David Watts, Tokyo

With a flurry of bows, Japan went back to work yesterday after an extended New Year holiday. Many firms gave their employees nine days off to celebrate the arrival of the Year of the Tiger, and they came streaming back into Tokyo until early yesterday.

A record number, 270,000, saw in the New Year abroad, but most had to be content with their hometowns. Returning to Tokyo, they paid the price for their enjoyment: trains packed, even by Japanese standards, at up to 2 1/2 times their capacity.

The office girls come to work in their best and brightest kimonos. Tokyo trains and streets are dotted with the bright reds, greens and silvers of kimono, contrasting with the grey overcoats of male office

Workers intent on rushing across the city from one company to another

Though little business is done, failure to greet all one's clients, potential clients, superiors and colleagues at the New Year season would mean a very thin year ahead indeed.

The captains of industry fear that the New Year may live up to its bad reputation. Both the First World War and the Korean War began in Years of the Tiger.

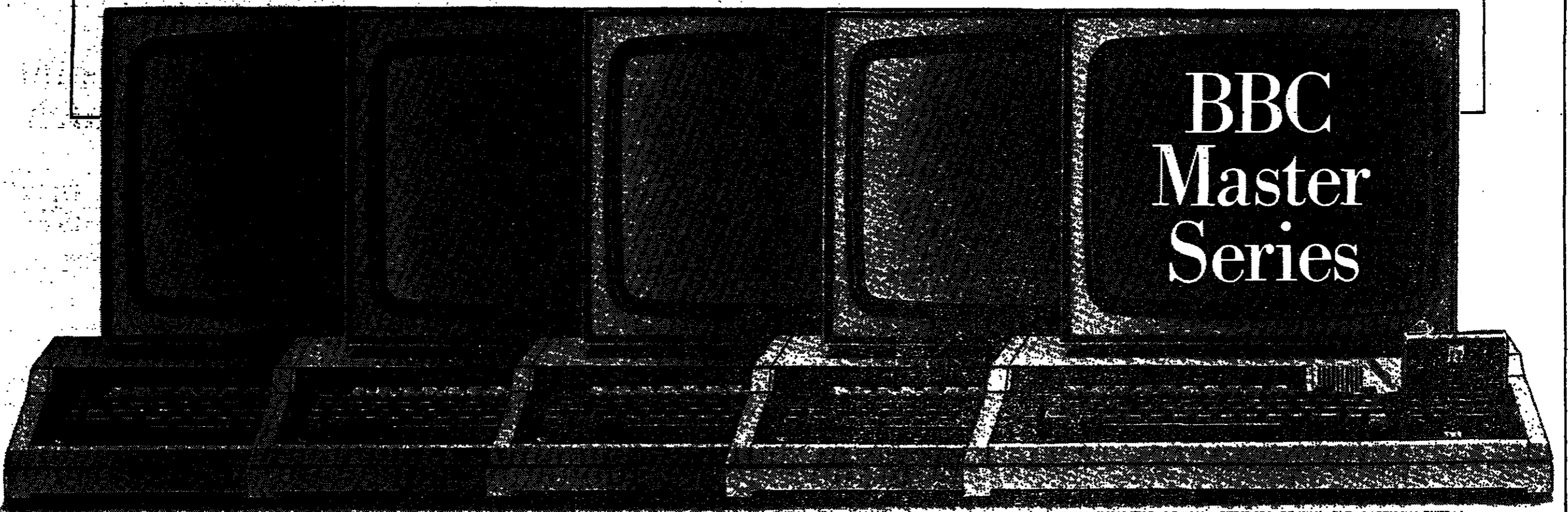
The Japanese economy is facing one of its bleakest years for some time, with the threat of protectionism in America and exports to China stalled. By "bleak", the economists mean growth of 4 per cent, something in which most Western countries would delight.



Otieno Mak'Onyango: bad health.

An important BBC announcement.

The first ever fully compatible micro series.



DISPLAY MONITOR AND ROM CARTRIDGES ARE AVAILABLE AS OPTIONAL EXTRAS.

Today sees the launch of the BBC Master Series. A new generation in the highly popular BBC Micro range.

This series represents a real leap forward in microcomputing.

Never before has a new Micro been so compatible, or so infinitely adaptable.

THE MASTER 128

The foundation upon which the whole series is built.

Our Master 128 retains all the virtues of the present 128K BBC Micro (BBC BASIC, superior choice of available software and peripherals).

Though now it includes the sophistication of wordprocessing and spreadsheets as standard.

The comprehensive WELCOME package contains software to demonstrate every aspect of the system, especially its advanced graphics.

Yet despite its many advances, the price

remains the same, £499 including VAT.

THE MASTER 512

The BBC Micro comes of age. Whilst maintaining all the features of the 128, the Master 512 adds the power of 16-bit computing to the series.

To bring this power fully under your control, the 512 comes equipped with the GEM collection which provides an icon-driven, simple and easy-to-use environment, as well as a word processor and painting package.

It is also the first BBC Micro to become MS-DOS compatible.

As such, it provides access to a whole new range of professional software.

All for under £1,000.

THE MASTER ET

The BBC Micro is justifiably famous for its networking facility within schools.

We intend to build on this reputation with the Master ET. Essentially it is a powerful, custom-built networking terminal.

Expensive interfaces and peripherals can be shared with other computers.

Which means it retails at the surprisingly low cost of £348.26 excluding VAT.

Most important of all, you can buy the Master ET knowing it will plug straight into your existing ECONET network with the option of upgrading later.

THE MASTER TURBO

This facility transforms the Master 128 into the fastest micro in its class.

An average micro benchmark is around 18.88 seconds. With the Master Turbo we've clocked up a record-breaking 4.67 seconds using BBC BASIC.

Its speed makes it an extremely efficient development tool for the programmer or for

anyone else with a heavy workload, costing only an extra £99 including VAT.

Though you may prefer it because it lets you do two things at once.

The TURBO can free your printer to perform one task while you perform another on your word processor.

THE MASTER SC

Scientific computing has traditionally been an expensive, time-consuming business.

The 32-bit Master Sc. changes all that, performing scientific tasks with the flexibility and cost-effectiveness of a microcomputer.

It uses all the important scientific languages - ISO PASCAL, FORTRAN 77, C and 32016 ASSEMBLER as well as BBC BASIC.

And should you need any advice after purchase, you can rely on our technical support.

That ends this BBC announcement.



BRITISH BROADCASTING CORPORATION
MASTER SERIES MICROCOMPUTER

The BBC Master Series.

Acorn
The choice of experience.

THE MASTER 128: 128K RAM, 3.5" DISK DRIVE, 1.44MB CAPACITY CARTRIDGE SOCKETS, REAL TIME CLOCK, CALENDAR, VIEW, VIEW SHEET, EDITOR AND TERMINAL. ADVANCED DISK FILING SYSTEM. THE MASTER 512: 512K RAM, 128K ROM, CAPACITY, 8086 PROCESSOR. GEM COLLECTION FROM DIGITAL RESEARCH. 401185. THE MASTER ET: 512K RAM AND 64K ROM, ADVANCED NETWORK FILING SYSTEM, 32K BYTES OPERATING SYSTEM, 16K BYTES BBC BASIC. THE MASTER TURBO: EXTRA 61K RAM, 8086 PROCESSOR, 16-BIT AND 18-BIT EXTENDER. THE MASTER SC: 32016 CPU, 32016 PROCESSOR, 512K RAM, HARDWARE FLOATING POINT. SEND FOR FULL DETAILS FROM BBC COMPUTERS, ACORN COMPUTERS, CAMBRIDGE TECHNOLOGY CENTRE, 100, 105 NEW MARKET ROAD, CAMBRIDGE CB3 9PU. © 1985 Acorn Computers Ltd. All rights reserved.

The chorus steps from stage to screen



Best feet forward: Sir Richard Attenborough, the director, lines up with the cast of the film, which took 10 years to get to the screen; 4,000 dancers auditioned for 17 jobs

They said the film of *A Chorus Line*, which opens in London this week, was unmakeable. Richard Attenborough did not agree...

Sir Richard Attenborough proudly considered his latest film "As a challenge - absolutely impossible to resist. As a cinematic task - by far the most difficult thing I have ever done as a director. Certainly the most complex and subtle. In every way, in the camera work and the editing, it is the most sophisticated film I have ever made."

As one of the modern cinema's notable bullet-biting directors of difficult projects, Attenborough had no illusions that making a film of Broadway's longest running show, *A Chorus Line*, was a formidable undertaking. It had scared off other talented men. It was widely regarded as the show that could not be filmed - too fragile a bubble to withstand the journey out of the theatre.

"A man would be a fool to think it was a pushover", Attenborough told me. "I knew it would be demanding. I saw the show six or eight times and pondered for several months before I said OK."

Attenborough's OK was the turning point in the long-running saga of *A Chorus Line's* translation to the screen. It has taken more than 10 years - and the road has been littered with dashed hopes, tear-soaked scripts and scrapped business deals.

hot dramatic property with profound creative problems for a film maker. A number of directors came and went, deciding they had no chance of conquering, went away. Over the years, while all the arguing was going on, *A Chorus Line* became an institution.

The central figures in getting it on to celluloid were the canny Broadway producers Cy Feuer and Ernest Martin, who had made the successful film *Cabaret*. They offered Joseph Papp, the show's producer, \$150,000 for the film rights. Then Columbia Pictures stepped in with \$400,000.

With critics and audiences plainly in love with the show, the offers were up to \$3 million before it even transferred to Broadway. Within six months Universal Pictures were the front runners with an offer of \$5.5 million, plus a promise that the film would not be released for five years.

But the project ran into trouble from the start. The agents moved in. A lot of cigars were to be chopped. Many people wanted a slice of the film money; Michael Bennett, the originator of the show, Joseph Papp, the producer, James Kirkwood and Nicholas Dante who wrote it; Marvin Hamlisch, who composed the music; Edward Kleban, who wrote the songs, and Bob Avian the choreographer.

The agents negotiated royalties of 20 per cent of the film's gross over \$30 million. This was double the going Hollywood rate and the expectations this deal raised were to cast a long shadow over future negotiations. And in the mean time there were other difficulties. Michael Bennett was hired by Universal to direct the picture. But he and Hollywood never danced in step.

"I missed New York. I missed the theatre, and I was naive about how California operates. It's about business first rather than the work first."

There is usually tension when film and theatre, west coast and east coast, meet to do business. There is also the Hollywood ganglion that Michael Bennett so disliked. John Boorman, another director who knows Hollywood's power structure, writes in his book *The Emerald Forest Diary*: "Hollywood is run by

THE FIVE WHO DIDN'T MAKE IT



Michael Bennett Mike Nichols Sidney Lumet Joel Schumacher and Allan Carr



Success: Richard Attenborough with stars Michael Douglas and Alyson Lee

a small group of people who are in adversary stances yet mostly interchangeable: eight or nine studio heads, another 40-odd executives, perhaps 60 top agents, a dozen lawyers, as many business managers, 100 active producers."

With the disillusioned Michael Bennett gone, Universal brought in another big-name director, Mike Nichols (*Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*, *The Graduate*, *Catch-22*, among others). He worked on the project for six months in 1978. But the fundamental creative problem seemed insuperable. *A Chorus Line* is almost plotless, an audition on a magic lie in the particular and charged atmosphere of a theatre.

Nichols had his doubts about the creative feasibility from the start. Universal did not like the screenplay and, in any case, would not give him the \$16 million budget he wanted. He quit. Universal next hired another heavyweight, Sidney Lumet,

who had recently directed *Equus* and *The Wiz*. The relationship lasted only a few months. So the studio turned to Joel Schumacher, who had written *The 400 Blows*, and directed the incredible *Shining Woman*. He worked in partnership with Allan Carr who had produced the successful John Travolta film *Grease*.

Carr wanted Travolta to star in *A Chorus Line*. But the Carr-Schumacher partnership foundered. Schumacher had concluded he was on a hiding to nothing. "If it failed it would be a glaring failure on only my second movie. I really thought I could do it at first, but I was innocent and crazy."

Finally, in 1980, Universal got rid of its troublesome property, selling the rights for \$7.8 million to the Germany-based PolyGram group. The company wanted Michael Bennett to direct. He debated, but

decided he would have been "done in emotionally" by having to audition people in the show he knew well.

The next idea was that *A Chorus Line* should be a star vehicle, with John Travolta and Mikhail Baryshnikov. But they wanted more money than PolyGram would pay - and PolyGram balked at the overall budget.

By now it was 1982. Back on Broadway the stage show company was content to see the various contenders trying and failing. They felt the screen version would damage the show financially.

PolyGram tried and failed to agree a new deal with Universal (who still wanted to distribute the film). By now PolyGram had spent \$3.5 million. But in the spring of 1982 Messrs Feuer and Martin, the producers who had been the original bidders in 1975, re-emerged and offered to make the film and raise the money, providing PolyGram

would end the distribution agreement with Universal so that Feuer and Martin could make their own arrangement. Done, said PolyGram. The next step was a screen-play. It was written by Arnold Schulman, who had done *Goodbye Columbus*. Embassy Productions liked it, agreed to distribute the film, and put up \$11.5 million. PolyGram's \$8.5 million was still in the kitty, to be repaid from the profits. Embassy insisted on a director with an international reputation. Enter Attenborough.

He and the two producers had the same agent. Attenborough flew to New York and saw the show. At that time he was fresh from his triumph with the epic *Gandhi*, his famous obsession, which had won eight Academy Awards, including Oscars for best director and best picture. Some eyebrows were raised at the idea of an Englishman having a go at a Broadway show, an essentially American art form. But Attenborough had demonstrated his daring, persistence and flair with *Gandhi* and with his successful *Oh! What A Lovely War*.

"When I agreed to do *A Chorus Line*, I took another look at *Oh! What A Lovely War*. I had not seen it for 10 years. I could see that I had been self-conscious and slow. I was trying to demonstrate that it was possible to turn a piece of theatre into a film by using cinematic tricks. It persuaded me that this would be the wrong path to take with *A Chorus Line*. I had great respect for Bennett's work. I honour him."

It was obvious that the film would have to remain within the theatre, that trips outside had to be sparingly used. Its theatrical ambience was everything. Jeffrey Hornaday, the young, scruffy and outstanding choreographer who created the dances in *Flashdance*, was signed on and he and Attenborough roughed out their ideas over lunch at Sardi's, a popular New York theatre restaurant. In February 1984, Attenborough started casting, whittling down 4,000 aspirants in auditions in New York and Los Angeles. He became a real-life *Zack* - the character in *A Chorus Line* who presides over the "cattle call" of hopeful young Broadway dancers,

the gypsies whose hopes and humiliation are the stuff of the play. "The final selections were profoundly distressing. We were looking at real talent and having to say no. These gypsies are unique. They have to be able to sing, dance and act and stay in top condition for the auditions on which they pin their hopes. And, like athletes, they do not last long. One of the girls who made it into the final 17 in the film months, and she has not worked much since. She works in a bar at night and goes to dance classes in the day, making herself available for auditions."

Electronic instruments and Moog synthesizers were introduced to update the original score, and two new songs were added. At last, shooting of the \$25 million film started at the Mark Hellinger Theatre in New York in October 1984.

Attenborough said: "I know I was a Limey on Broadway, but I never for a moment felt unwelcome. The theatre was like a club, with friends dropping in all the time to watch. The atmosphere was wonderful. The dancers were like my children and I still feel a great paternal pride in them."

Attenborough admits he is wounded by the attacks of some of the American critics. *The New York Times* critic wrote: "They said *A Chorus Line* couldn't be done - and they were right". Attenborough said: "I'm astonished at the degree of viciousness of one or two of them, and we were unlucky in the way some nasty early reviews were reported in Britain. We've had a lot of terrific reviews, too, and Clive Barnes said it was the best dance film and movie musical for years. He was amazed by some of the ill-judged comments."

"It has had a long journey, but it is worth it. On the night it opened in New York, Joseph Papp introduced himself to me and said 'you've captured the spirit of the show. It will make Michael Bennett as happy as it made me'."

Trevor Fishlock
A Chorus Line opens at the Odeon, Leicester Square, on Friday.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 842)

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down. Clues include: 1 Support (4,2), 5 Flowing garment (4), 8 Blow (5), 9 Evident (7), 11 Unexceptional (8), 13 Soothing ointment (4), 15 Fair slide (6,7), 17 Period (4), 18 Large plum (8), 21 Appendices (7), 22 Wallow (2), 23 Snatch (4), 24 Large kingdom (6). Down clues include: 2 Avert (5), 3 Goat (3), 4 Daily (13), 5 Speak angrily (4), 6 Floatable (7), 7 Heights fear (10), 10 Forward roll (10), 12 Christmas (4), 14 Curved (4), 16 Clean clothes (7), 19 Wanderer (5), 20 Round handle (4), 22 Knock (3).

ANNOUNCING OUR UNIQUE OFFER HOTEL CLUB at the Famous 4-STAR LAS PIRAMIDES HOTEL at Fuengirola on the Costa del Sol, Spain. BOOK 2 WEEKS HOLIDAY EACH YEAR FOR 5 YEARS SAVE £££. ONE PAYMENT ONLY £275 LOW SEASON * £475 MID SEASON £725 HIGH SEASON. THE PRICE IS NOT PER PERSON BUT FOR A ROOM FOR 5 YEARS at LAS PIRAMIDES HOTEL (sleeps up to 3). LOW COST FLIGHTS & CAR HIRE AVAILABLE. Ring Now for full details and free colour brochure. 01-534 6554 (4 lines - 24 hrs). HOTEL CLUB (UK) LTD 39 Epsom Road, London SW3. acil 1294 * plus small annual Service Charge.

Cattle market with designs on marketing

A retired shopfitter has turned the derelict Royal Agricultural Hall into a design centre that will enhance the image of British business

This year British business will have no excuse for a dreary image. The revamped Royal Agricultural Hall in Islington, north London opens in March as the Business Design Centre - the first of its kind in Britain and a blueprint for other historic but neglected sites. The Aggie, as it is known locally, had a colourful past before 1939 when the Post Office took it over as a sorting office. Built as a cattle market in 1861 it has housed circuses, tournaments, a theatre, an embassy hall, Crufts and bull-fighting for which two men and seven Spanish matadors were prosecuted in March, 1870. A thriller called *Wobble to Death* by Peter Lovesey was based on one of the six-day walking races held round and round the interior of the hall. In the race of 1878, W. Corky and "Blower" Brown survived the course - Corky had such a commanding lead that he retired to change his clothes for the last lap. Prize fighting was described as "humane" compared with these tests of endurance. It has been derelict since the early 1970s. Various proposals for its resurrection were dropped into the tide of council and local opinion and drifted away like Pooch sticks. Suggestions included pulling it down to build a housing estate, turning it into a Dickensian version of Disney world, re-modelling it as a swimming bath or an indoor sports centre. Largely because of lack of



Past glories: The Agricultural Hall in 1861 and Sam Morris, the man whose vision helped restore it

money, and partly because of a small but vociferous group of local residents, all the ideas were shelved. Then nearly four years ago a local shopfitter, Sam Morris, started looking for a "retirement project" and lighted on the Aggie as a challenging alternative to being grassed out on the bowling green. The moment he walked into the vast skeletal cavern that looked like a cross between Jonah's whale and a Victorian railway station, he saw it as a prestige trade centre which would vie with the most successful in America. No one else had his vision. He could not find a bank to lend the £7.4 million he needed to top up the urban development grant of £2.85 million. He found a speculative investor, borrowed on the value of properties belonging to his own business of 30 years' standing and persuaded the American company Bay West to come in as a minority partner. Bay West are the backers of

the largest trade centre in the United States. Showplace Square, in San Francisco - 1.5 million square feet occupied by 400 design-based tenants who turn over more than \$350 million a year. Sam Morris has used their experience, plus his visual and shop-fitting expertise, to gut and transform the 44-acre site into a three-tier walkway of showrooms round a central exhibition area. "I will, he promises, house the best of business design - a sort of Brent Cross for businessmen", he calls it. If one-stop shopping is the intention, he is nearly half way there before the restored iron balustrading (originally made by Heavydies of Derby) is in place. Already a fifth of the showroom space is booked, with a further fifth reserved. Future tenants include Thorn EMI, the Design Council, Ferrings, Silcat Gliss, several

office furniture manufacturers, a computer company, business equipment suppliers and specialists in lighting, carpets, glass and shelving. "If you ask why this country is so slow getting on the road, the answer lies with management", says Morris. "Too many of them lack inspiration and the missing link is the designer. British designers lead the world abroad but not here. What they need is a place where everyone can see what they have to offer. Designers, architects, buyers, business heads will be able to compare equipment, furnishings, furniture, communications systems - all under one roof. "It will also be a centre for conferences and exhibitions and we want colleges of art and design to exhibit here too - universities and students are bad at marketing themselves. Showing their designs here will bring them into focus and teach them how to sell."

His enthusiasm is infectious. After one visit, John Butcher, Minister for Trade and Industry, was already pushing the idea one step further. "It struck me that this very imaginative approach could be useful in the provinces, too", he says. He sees it as "a magnificent example of 19th-century precision engineering being converted to the needs of the 21st century. "I am already talking to one or two enlightened people in the Midlands who see such centres as a way of using design to get their companies into growth areas. "If and when those enlightened industrialists set up their own business design centres, perhaps they could include facilities for local residents. The Islington project will provide two public restaurants and parties will be taken round the centre on request, but for a building with such a history of

public entertainment, it seems churlish to limit the enjoyment of such a spectacular conversion. "I do think the building should be open to the public 40 per cent of the time", says Mary Cosh, vice-chairman of the Islington Society. "At the turn of the century people came up from the country, attended a show at the Hall, dined at the Angel and finished the evening at Collins Music Hall. "One link that will be kept is the local name for the hall. Above the weighty title Business Design Centre will be the pet name Aggie. "We couldn't call it the Royal Agricultural Hall", explains Sam Morris. "People always confuse it with the Royal Horticultural Hall in Westminster. "They should know by now that design is a much more serious business than a lot of frills and flowers. Beryl Downing

FASHION I by Suzy Menkes

Second in an occasional series on fashion-makers

Headmistress with art in her craft

Jean Muir celebrated the New Year by sitting up in bed, sipping a glass of champagne, and "thinking about designs for the next collection".

She has two good reasons to fête the start of 1986: it marks the twentieth anniversary of the year when, in the midst of the wild, unbridled 1960s fashion revolution, Jean Muir Ltd was set up to create prim and properly-made dresses. On December 20, after more than a year's negotiation, Miss Jean Muir, CBE, and her husband Harry Leuckert signed a deal which officially acknowledges her role as Britain's leading designer. The Coats Paton Group, umbrella company to Jaeger, where Jean Muir started her design career in 1956, have taken a majority financial interest in Jean Muir Ltd.

This deal gives Jean Muir the springboard for expansion that is the norm for continental designers. The investment will be primarily in the Studio collections - the fashion ranges set up five years ago to offer the Jean Muir designs to a wider public on a price tier below the main collection. Ian McGourty, Comptroller of Coats Paton, says that the tie-up will initially strengthen distribution, especially in the United States. It will also enable Miss Muir to enlarge her design studio, where she already employs and trains, with messianic fervour, art college graduates.

"We feel that Jean's strength is bringing on young designers", says Ian McGourty. "Perhaps she likes working with young designers more than getting into a room by herself."

Jean Muir's work with fledgling designers and her overwhelming concern with the craft and technique of dressmaking were recognized by her CBE for services to industry in

close up

JEAN MUIR

- 1956 Designer for Jaeger
- 1962 Founded Jane and Jane
- 1965 Ambassador Award for Achievement
- 1966 Jean Muir Ltd set up
- 1967 Maison Blanche Rex International Award, New Orleans
- 1970 Churchman's Award
- 1972 Designer of Year
- 1972 Royal Designer for Industry (RDI)
- 1972 Elected fellow Royal Society of Arts
- 1973 Nieman Marcus award, distinguished service to fashion
- 1978 Fellow of Society of Industrial Artists and Designers, FSIAD
- 1981 Honorary Doctor, Royal College of Art
- 1984 Commander of the Order of the British Empire, CBE
- 1985 Honorary Degree, Doctor of Literature, University of Newcastle
- 1985 Hommage de la Mode by Fédération Française du Prêt-à-porter Féminin

the 1984 New Year Honours. She is an uncompromising and sometimes uncompromising colleague on the Design Council or as an Honorary Doctor of the Royal College of Art.

She was particularly proud of being made a Royal Designer for Industry by the Royal Society of Arts in 1972 at the age of 40. Five years later she presented a forceful paper insisting on the need for setting a standard of design teaching.

There is something of the fashion headmistress about Jean Muir - her disconcertingly slight frame, always encased in plain navy blue from head to toe. She is proud of her Scottish roots and fosters the Jean Brodie image when she lectures

designers (and fashion editors) on the need to restore a sense of pride in the technique of making clothes. The only thing missing was the Scottish accent when she addressed the massed ranks of the Women's Institute with the words: "I cannot in your company ignore the things most passionate to me - art and craft and design and the upholding of standards and quality, maintaining them and setting new ones".

A desire "constantly to trim things down and to concern one's self with a basis uncomplicated by supposition of frills" is the Muir philosophy of life, of design and of living. Her Bruton Street showroom is the plainest white, decorated only with delicate pencil-painted portraits of herself (Her mobile white face and red lips picked out with magnetized modern painters.)

She and her husband live in a fussy Victorian mansion block behind the Albert Hall, but their flat is painted white through walls and floor. The furnishings are minimal. Miss Muir is a purist.

Or, as Sir Roy Strong (she is also a trustee of the Victoria & Albert Museum) expresses it: "All fashion is either classic or romantic and Jean Muir is the former, rarer bird".

There are no frills on Jean Muir or her collections - although I do remember a clown's ruff in silky jersey falling like a cape from neck to shoulders. Everybody recognizes the jerseys, even if they are now the least part of a collection that is important for its suede, its printed fabrics (inspired by young textile students) and increasingly for its cashmères.

But the Jean Muir dress is still the most lyrical expression of her art of dressmaking. ("The



I am a traditionalist with a sense of evolution - someone who loves evolving continuity - I prefer evolution to revolution



Left: Jean Muir, dressed in navy blue from head to foot and living with pure white walls

Above: The early Jean Muir silhouette of full sleeves, narrow shoulders and short caletto skirt

Right: Slim-line intarsia cashmere tabard, sweater and skirt from the current collection

most outstanding dressmaker in the world" is the description of Jean Muir by Geraldine Stutz, president of Henri Bendel in New York.)

Because Jean Muir clothes are miracles of cutting (18 pattern pieces to one little peplum jacket, for example) they seem deceptively simple. Changes are so subtle that her collections are a disappointment to headline writers. In fact, the evolution from the taut shoulder-line, full sleeves, high waist and skimpy bias-cut skirts of 1966 to the generous armholes, wrap jackets and slim crepe trousers of today, has been profound.

These fashion changes, and the skills of cut and drape, are

sometimes better understood by international critics than at home. The French, in particular, admire her for her couture sense of cut and consider her Britain's only great fashion designer. She was awarded the Hommage de la Mode by the Fédération Française du Prêt-à-porter Féminin last autumn. Her "clients" (for they think of her as a couturière and themselves as friends rather than "customers") include Lady Antonia Fraser, Joanna Lumley, Jill Bennett and Bridget Riley - all women in the public eye but known also for their intelligence.

Jean Muir is also recognized overseas for her use of true British fabrics: tweed, cash-

mere, wool flannel, fine cotton. I think especially of the Muir attention to detail: a navy leather pinafore dress I bought which had an enamel buckle painted with a pastoral cow, and the buttons with a pride of calves.

Miss Muir says: "I have always worked with young jewellers and button makers. Under the new arrangements, I hope I can work more on accessories and even move into other areas like ceramics. It all comes from a design point of view."

Coats Paton hope that Jean Muir will widen and develop her ranges and also contribute her design direction to their

own empire, which includes Country Casuals as well as Jaeger, and the hand-knitting yarns and craft threads that make up 20 per cent of the company's figures.

Jean Muir has trodden the pin-scattered road to success slowly and carefully. She herself had no formal design training. She learnt on the job for six years at Jaeger between 1956 and 1962 before leaving to work under the Jane and Jane label.

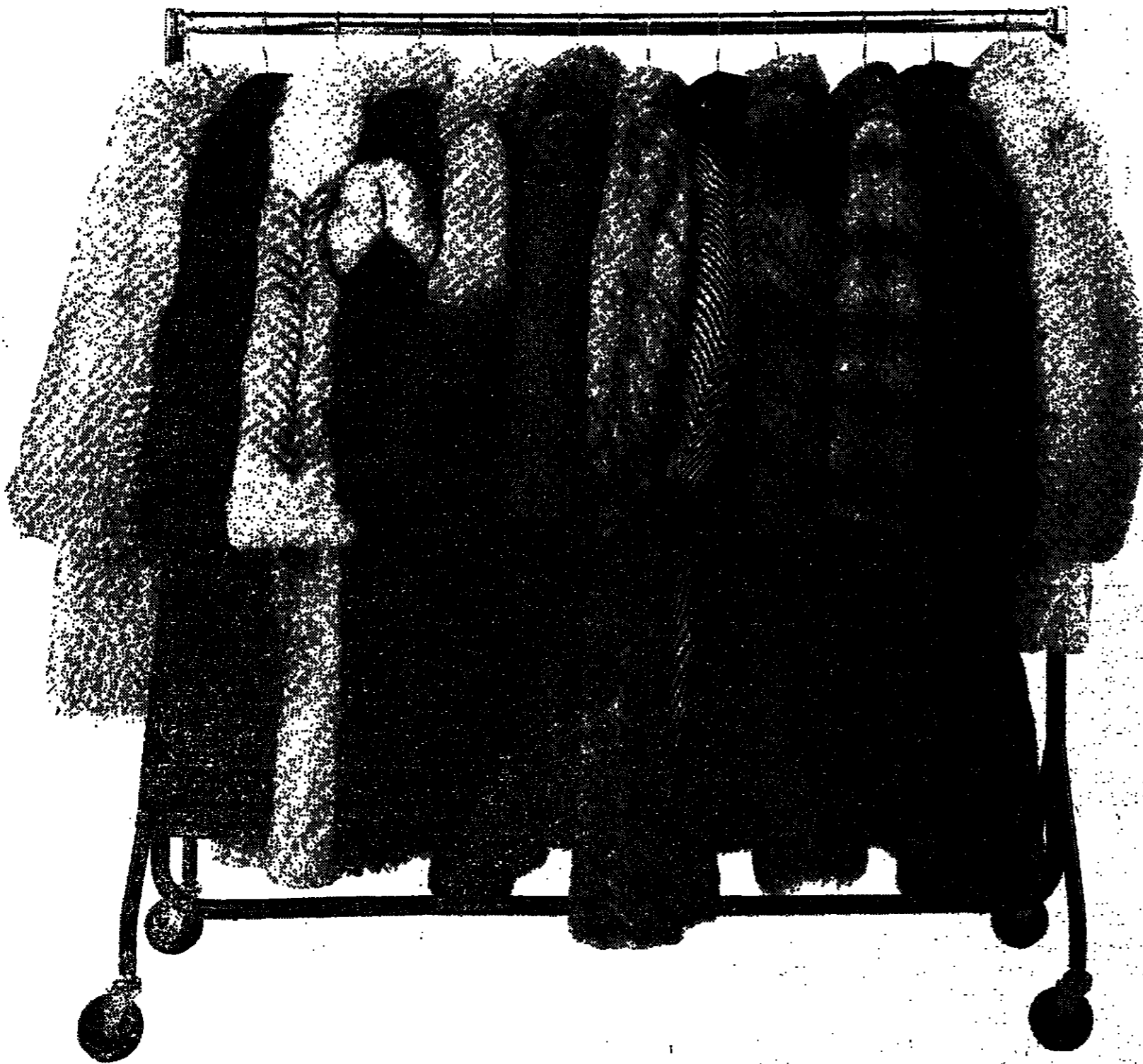
There has been what McGourty calls "a continuing emotional relationship" with Jaeger over the past 20 years and, in a characteristically unshowy way, Jean Muir has been giving some "design input" to the Jaeger changes.

Jean Muir has, at the age of 53, achieved the link-up between fine design and commercial manufacturing in which she so passionately believes. I asked her whether she thought young fashion designers, hooked on stardom, realized how long it takes to build a fashion empire.

"I don't look at it as having taken me 20 years", she says. "We could probably have done it 10 years ago, but we liked the business as it was. Then, when we were talking with Coats Paton, it seemed instinctively right. It is time to push on. Obviously the more you know your trade the better it is for you. I believe in strength from experience."

Harrods Great Winter Fur Sale

Starts Tomorrow Wednesday 8th January 9am to 7pm



	Harrods Original Price	Sale Price
Russian Sable Jacket (one only)	30,000	9,950
Blue Fox Jackets	1,795	895
Dark Female Mink Coats	5,500	2,750
Dark Female Mink Jackets	3,600	1,800
Shadow Silver Fox Cape (one only)	13,200	4,995
Coney Lined Raincoats	1,995	995
Mongolian Fox Jacket (one only)	5,995	2,995
Sapphire Mink Coats	10,900	4,995
Azure Mink Stroller (one only)	11,200	4,995
Fitch and Mink Coats	5,995	2,995
Chinchilla Coat (one only)	34,500	16,995
Dark Mink Boleros	4,995	1,995
Silver Fox Jackets	3,995	1,995
Raccoon Après-Ski Jackets	3,600	1,800
Shadow Fox and Raccoon Coats	3,995	1,995
Mongolian Lamb Jackets	995	495
Shadow and Red Fox Coats	3,995	1,995
Pastel Mink Coats with Fox trim	4,995	2,495
Designer Raccoon Jackets	1,995	995

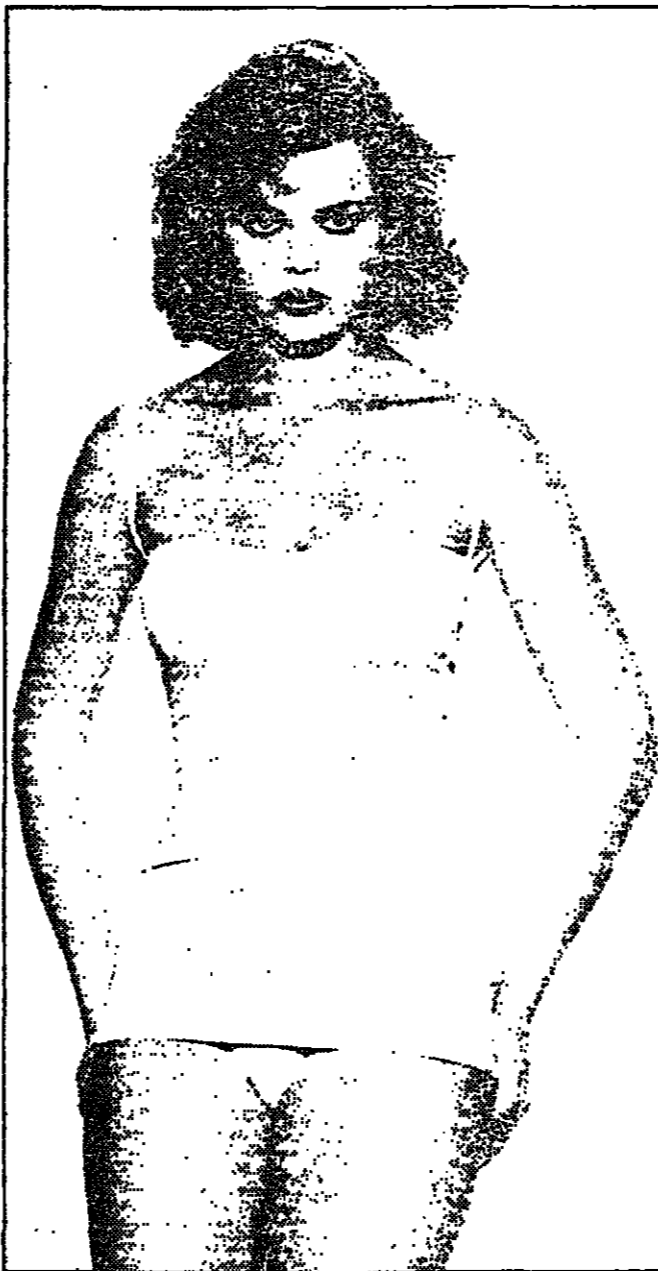
Fur Salon. First Floor. Personal Shoppers Only.

INTEREST-FREE CREDIT AGREEMENTS AVAILABLE.
Ask for written details.



FASHION II

Woollen undies for winter warmth



Is it better to wear winter woolies next to your skin - or over your clothes?

This winter's temperatures rise and fall like a yo-yo, which is what our grandmothers would have called "treacherous" weather. They viewed it from behind a barricade of flannel, pericots, combinations, *Directoire* knickers and other undies designed to pull the wool over their thighs.

Although the new generation of lightweight winter underwear looks so completely different, it serves the same function: to cover the torso from chest to knees. Central heating and modern fashion have combined to make us dress in light-as-a-breeze winter wardrobes unsuited to January's icy blast. Those whose homes are chilly, or who need protection en route to work, demand a great deal from their smalls.

Spencers, vests and long johns need to be efficient at the

A touch of lacy glamour has entered the once strictly functional world of thermal underwear

job of warming up, but also to adjust comfortably to the changing temperatures. There is no doubt that the genuine thermal fibres are the most efficacious. Tiny pockets of warm air are trapped in the fabric as a layer of insulation, and the same fibre breathes out the other way. Or, as Damart express it more technically of their own Thermolactyl fibre, it draws perspiration away from the skin, allowing it to evaporate, so that the body itself stays dry as well as warm. These "breathing" properties apply to other natural fibres,

which is why those who would not be seen dead in a vest are found alive and well in winter with their summer T-shirts tucked under a sweater.

Both thermal underwear (and you must look for a serious label and discount all imitations) and cotton undies have undergone a design transformation. Insets or edgings of lace, and delicate patterns built into the structure of the fabric, are all a far cry from the yellowing and felted combinations that once came between glamour and frost-bite.

This is true at least for the top halves. The "bottoms" are still alarming garments, so accurately called "pension cheaters" half a century ago.

But other styles from lingerie's earlier years are making a fashionable come-back. Norma Kamali, the American designer whose passion for the 1940s has been expressed in her clothes, has now recreated underwear redolent of the forces' pin-up. Her all-in-one body-suit, with a long-legged "vest" of fabric stretching over its panties, is the shape of swimsuits to come next summer.

If we wore nothing but layers of wool, we could probably survive the English winter without another stitch of clothing. But layers of the cheaper acrylic sweaters do not give the same warming effect.

The warmest, softest and lightest of wools is undoubtedly cashmere, one of the best buys currently available in the sales. To prove that keeping warm need not mean muffling up, we photographed our model with just one high-fashion layer above and below freezing point.

Above: UNDERWEAR - delicate oyster cotton and silk lace-trimmed vest, also in white and pink and lemon, £35 by La Perla from Courtenay, 22-24 Brook Street, W1 and 188 Sloane Street, SW1. White stretch lace-trimmed thermal leggings, £6.45 from Damart, 263 Regent Street, W1, and by mail order (send for catalogue to order) from Damart, Bowling Green Mills, Bingley, West Yorkshire. **OVERWEAR** - men's long sloppy red cashmere "Higgins" cardigan, knitted in a grid pattern, £195 by Jean Muir in the sale at Browns, 27 South Molton Street, London W1 and 6c Sloane Street, SW1. **Above Centre:** UNDERWEAR - fine stretchy lace-patterned white thermal vest with long sleeves, matching white leggings, also in black, scarlet, lemon and burgundy, both £6.45 from Damart, 263 Regent Street, W1, or by mail order from Damart, Bowling Green Mills, Bingley, West Yorkshire. **OVERWEAR** - scarlet wrap-over cashmere smoking jacket, edged in white with a long cashmere belt, £420 by Valerie Louthan from Lords, 70 Burlington Arcade, W1.

Above: UNDERWEAR - Norma Kamali's 1940s swimsuit-style salmon pink body-suit in thick cotton and lycra, £60 from Browns, 23-27 South Molton Street, W1. **Above Left:** UNDERWEAR - lace-trimmed pale pink vest, 100 per cent knitted polyester, £3.25, also in white or lemon. Matching French knickers with lace edging, £2.75, both from major branches of Marks and Spencer. Pink glossy tights, £1.25 by Aristoc from department stores. **OVERWEAR** - cream cable-knit cashmere cardigan with brass buttons, £124.75 from Bark, 46-50 Burlington Arcade, W1. **Hair and make-up:** Clifford Brake for Michaeljohn. **Photographs by DAVID ANTHONY**

Below: UNDERWEAR - Peruvian Style: Wrap up in layers of bright coloured knitwear worn with an oversized peasant skirt over ski-pants and heavy hiking boots. Emerald green and purple sweaters with triangles and flowers for £27 under green or navy quilted coats from £50. Tie a thick wool scarf, £8, underneath a felt trilly, £9, trimmed with feathers. All by French Connection at Connections, James Street, WC2, and at department store concessions throughout the country. **Warm up your hands** with fingerless gloves worn over thick wool mittens, all in earthy terracotta shades of alpaca or bright electric colours of vegetable dye from Inca, 45 Elizabeth Street, SW1. **Working for Warmth:** Dressed for a Slavic style winter are Workers for Freedom at 4 Lower John Street, W1, selling

tasselled waistcoats and cardigans in woven and knitted wool, £80, to wear under stencilled jackets showing horses and llamas, with matching black wool trousers or peasant skirts, £80. Slavic accessories are thick blanket-stitched workman's gloves, fringed woollen shawls tied under deep-crowned felt hats, all £25. **All Toggled Up:** For hardy winter service the duffel coat has made a come-back this year in a variety of shapes and sizes from donkey jacket to full-length. Mulberry's scarlet hooded coat has bone toggles and leather thongs and comes to the ankle or the knee from £169.50 at 11-12 Gees Court, W1. The sale at Next branches has duffel coats for £39.99 in lime, black, pimento or turquoise. **Rebecca Tyrrel**

A JILL GORDON DESIGN
EHRMAN TAPESTRY

This cheerful tapestry has been designed exclusively for us by the painter Jill Gordon. The powder blue daisies and pink flowers are on a cream background, and are surrounded by a border of leaves. Jill Gordon lives in the Cotswolds and is well-known for her still-life and landscape watercolours. We were delighted when she agreed to design a tapestry kit for us and the result is one of the most attractive cushions we have yet produced.



The design measures 14" x 14" and is worked in simple half-cross stitch. It is printed in the full nine colours: Cream, powder blue, azure, navy, sage and a pale turquoise, faded rose, sand and pink. The canvas is 12 holes to the inch and the kit comes complete with all the required yarns from the Appleton pure wool tapestry range, needle and instructions. All for £17.50 including postage and packing. Use FREEPOST - No stamp needed.

Ehrman, 21/22 Vicarage Gate, London, W8 4AA. Partners H.&R. Ehrman. Please allow 28 days for delivery. Money back if kit returned unused within 14 days.

To: **EHRMAN, FREEPOST, LONDON W8 4BE**
Please send me.....tapestry kits at £17.50 each.
I enclose a cheque/P.O. made out to Ehrman for £.....(Total)
Name.....
Address.....

valentino BOUTIQUE

Sale now on

Ladies 160 New Bond Street, London W1 Tel: 01-493 2678
Men and Ladies 174 Sloane Street, London SW1 Tel: 01-235 9835

Kanga
8 Beauchamp Place
London SW3 1NQ
Tel: 01-581 1185

SALE!
Friday, January 3rd, 1986, at 10 a.m.
Up to 50% reductions!

Karl Lagerfeld

SALE NOW ON

173 New Bond Street, London W1. Telephone: 01-493 6277

EDINA RONAY
HALF PRICE
SALE

NOW ON -
141, KINGS ROAD, S.W.3
TEL 352 - 1085

SALE

SATURDAY 11th JANUARY
to
SATURDAY 25th JANUARY
9.30 - 5.30 DAILY

LOEWE
SALE

THE LOVELIEST THINGS MONEY CAN BUY

You'll find them in the Loewe Sale. Leather coats, jackets, skirts, trousers, silk blouses, dresses, shoes, boots, handbags. Precious things reduced by at least 30% and often much, much more.

COME IN TODAY
25 Old Bond Street, London W1.
Tel: 01-493 3914.
47/49 Brompton Road, Knightsbridge, London SW1. Tel: 01-581 4014.

LOEWE
MADE IN GERMANY

THE TIMES DIARY

Reid's rude awakening

The early hours of yesterday morning were not happy ones for British Rail chairman Bob Reid...

Waugh & Pearce

Auberon Waugh, the unlikely new editor-designate of the monthly Literary Review...

Clawback

My heart continues to bleed for Mirror staff in Robert Maxwell's aim to bring their canteen "up to the standards of motorway restaurants"...

City slickers

Evidence submitted to the Labour inquiry into its Liverpool party suggests that Militants, far from being extreme socialists...



"I don't know as I'd really fancy being a teacher"

Favourites all

The Society of Authors is underlining its annual award for the Best of British award for first novels of romantic bent by under-35s...

Facing facts

On the gilt-edged invitations for the 30th anniversary celebrations of the independence of the Democratic Republic of Sudan...

Stock tactics

The far-right Federation of Conservative Students is predictably contemptuous of Michael Heseltine's interventionist, anti-American stand over Westland...

Why the Arabs back Gadaffi

Robert Fisk finds opposition to terrorism wearing thin in the face of humiliation and a deep-rooted feeling of western betrayal

Beirut Anyone who wants to understand the slaughter at Rome and Vienna airports should walk through the Chatila camp for Palestinian refugees in Beirut...

It became apparent that President Assad had no more desire to see an independent Palestinian state than had Israel. When Arafat's forces left Lebanon...

individual Arab nations abhor both Gadaffi's regime and his self-evident arrogance. The real truth, however objectionable it may be to the West...

Bernard Levin: the way we live now



A post that should have been deserted

I am being haunted by a lawsuit I read about some time ago, and must try to exorcise the spectre today...

on no more than those facts, to extemporize a closing speech to a jury on behalf of the man who complained of trespass by string...

has notched up 13 years, for indicating that he did not think very highly of Evelyn Waugh's novels...

Digby Anderson

Give compassion real conflict

Television producers usually love conflict so much they will manufacture disagreement where none exists...

for the elderly just have to make out the easy case that it would be nice if they had more money...

The panel of experts or politicians consists of one or two who also think it would be nice if all these people had some more money...

Such programmes take those "in need" group by group; this week the elderly, next week one-parent families...

State subsidies in the real-life game are limited: more money to some means less for others...

Oh, but you can, if what you are innocent of is a two-inch trespass, and that goes also for those who are guilty of such a misdemeanor...

To take another example, there is a product for cleaning windows called Windolene...

To say that I was sore amazed would be to underestimate the case. The first three of these programmes were exactly the same as I remembered...

In any case, if I were a PR man I would use the word "new" with great caution, as it has so many overtones of age and tradition...

The brothers now protest their innocence. Vladimir says he was in Honduras when Colonel Avalos was kidnapped and his brother was at the circus with his girlfriend...

When the Evening Standard became London's only evening paper, it decided to give itself a new image by calling itself the New Standard...

Civilian rule, but the torture goes on

San Salvador Torture is becoming increasingly common in El Salvador, raising grave doubts over the guilt of prisoners said to have confessed to political crimes...

view some of the prisoners. What they told me substantiated horrifying reports already brought to the attention of lawyers, diplomats and human rights groups...

"We were given a twelve-page 'confession' and had two days to learn it by heart. At the end of the two days they dressed us up, put make-up on our faces and took us to a TV studio...

The military insist that what Vladimir Centeno told me is a lie. And the fact remains that in El Salvador, democracy or no democracy, the military - who consistently deny any part in the thousands of murders, disappearances and tortures of recent years - still have the final word.

John Carlin

Moreover... Miles Kington It's the same new story



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

SANDRINGHAM January 6: Today being the Feast of Epiphany a Sung Eucharist was held in the Chapel Royal, St James's Palace...

KENSINGTON PALACE January 6: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon was present this evening at a Concert given by Barry Manilow...

Birthdays today

Mr Hunter Davies, 50; Vice-Admiral Sir John Collins, 87; Mr Gerald Durrell, 61; Sir James Harford, 87; Mrs Marjorie Kitchin, 81; Mrs Tom Kier, 81; Mrs Gordon MacMillan, 89; Sir John Page, 71; Sir Alastair Pilkington, FRSE, 66; Colonel Sir John Johnston, 75; Professor K. W. Sykes, 65; Lord Taylor of Hadfield, 81; Air Commodore the Hon Sir Peter Vannock, MEP, 64.

Fortcoming marriages

Dr B. L. P. Mac Greevy and the Hon C. M. Shaw The engagement is announced between Brian Peter Mac Greevy and the Hon C. M. Shaw...

Marriages

Mr M. C. Bellamy and Miss N. E. Edmundson The marriage took place on Saturday, December 14, 1985, at St James's Church, Teignmouth...



Admiral Sir Simon Cassels and Lady Cassels, who appear to be taking a relaxed drive in an open 1924 Bentley in the grounds of the Royal Naval College, Greenwich, were, in fact, being hauled with ropes by about 20 naval officers...

Latest appointments

Mrs Joan Clanchy, aged 46, Headmistress of St George's School, Edinburgh, for the past 10 years, was to be Headmistress of the North London Collegiate School in succession to Miss Madeline McLaughlan...

Cinema admissions up by 35%

The British Film Year campaign to restore the flagging fortunes of the domestic cinema may become a permanent organisation after the end of the campaign later this year. Film executives are talking about the organization and funding to take over the campaign's work...

OBITUARY

UNA MERKEL Hollywood character actress

Una Merkel, the American film actress, has died in Los Angeles at the age of 82. A round-faced, large-eyed blonde, she got her chance in films because of her resemblance to the great silent star, Lillian Gish...



Una Merkel in '42nd Street'

Bing Crosby in one of the early 'Road' pictures, 'Road to Zanzibar', and continued to make films until well into the 1960s. The most notable of her later roles was as Geraldine Page's mother in the 1961 screen version of Tennessee Williams's play, 'Summer and Smoke'...

PROFESSOR F. J. TURNER

Professor E. A. Vincent writes: Professor Francis John Turner, one of the most distinguished petrologists of his generation, died on December 21 in Berkeley, California, aged 81. Born and educated in New Zealand, Turner remained at the University of Otago until the end of the war...

MR JOHN CRONIN

Mr John Desmond Cronin, FRCS, Labour member of Parliament for the Loughborough division of Leicestershire from 1955 to 1979, has been found dead near his home in Hampshire. It is believed that he may have had a heart attack after falling from his horse...

SIR JOHN HOWARD

Sir John Howard, FICE, who died on January 2 at the age of 84, founded the firm of John Howard and Company, P.L.C., civil engineering contractors in 1927. He was chairman and managing director of that concern from that year until 1982 and from 1982 had been president...

MR J. E. MARNHAM

Mr John Ewart Marnham, CMG, MC, TD, Ambassador to Tunisia from 1973 to 1975, died on December 28 at the age of 69. The son of Colonel A.E. Marnham, MC, he was educated at Mill Hill and Jesus College, Cambridge. He joined the Colonial Office in 1938...

SIR LINCOLN STEEL

Sir Lincoln Steel, who died on December 27 at the age of 85, was chairman of Triplex Holdings from 1961 to 1966. Educated at Christ's Hospital and St John's College, Oxford, where he was an Open Scholar, he joined Brunner, Mond in 1922 after war service in the Royal Engineers...

Schools

City of London School Spring Term begins today and ends on March 27. Entrance and scholarship examinations will be held on February 3, 4 and 5. The joint concert will be given in the Barbican Hall on Sunday, March 9...

Friern Barnet Grammar School

Spring Term begins today. Boys wishing to enter the school in September, 1986, at age eleven should sit the entrance examination on Friday, January 10, 1986. This term's school charity is War on Want. Term ends on March 27.

Girls' Public Day School Trust

Spring Term for the twenty-four schools of the Girls' Public Day School Trust will begin this week, half-term will be during the week of February 17. Mrs Kathleen Irving has been appointed Headmistress of Birkenhead High School as from September 1986 on the retirement of Miss Freda Kellert.

St Dunstan's College

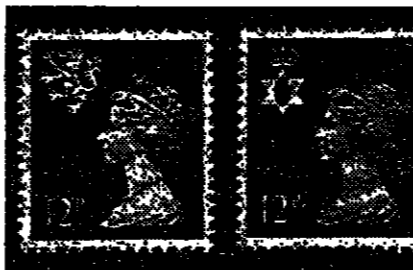
Term begins today and ends on Wednesday, March 26. Term will be from February 15 to 19. Ian Teidevan is head of school. Productions by the dramatic society of The Visit will be on March 5, 6 and 7 and the preparatory department's production of Sweetest Todd will be on March 24 and 25. The entrance and scholarship examinations will take place on February 4.

Holmewood School

Spring Term starts today. The school production of Joseph and his Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat will be held on March 14 and 15. The next term's centenary reunion of Holmewood is compiling a register of students prior to 1953, and would welcome details as appropriate. From April we shall be admitting boys to a reception class from the age of 4 1/2.

Latest wills

Other estates include (net, before tax paid): Patricia Belle Lacey, of Dorking, underwriting member of Lloyds, left estate valued of £1,363,030 net. She left £200,000, or 25% of her residuary estate, whichever the less, equally between the RNL and the Mesthrie Foundation. Gladys Annie Blyth, of Southsea, left £82,528 net. She left all of her estate equally between the Arthritis and Rheumatism Council and British Heart Foundation.



New 12p stamps for Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland which will be on sale from today. The emerald green stamps show (from left) the Scottish Lion, the Hand of Ulster, and the Welsh Dragon.

Church news

Appointments: The Rev. R. C. G. Jones, vicar of St Andrew, St. James's, London. The Rev. R. C. G. Jones, vicar of St Andrew, St. James's, London. The Rev. R. C. G. Jones, vicar of St Andrew, St. James's, London.

Legal

Mr Michael Pulvermacher, a solicitor in private practice in London, was appointed to the Legal Aid Advisory Committee.

Protection promise for Stonehenge

English Heritage said yesterday that it would 'protect' Stonehenge if there was any risk of a hippy invasion in the summer. The ancient monuments organization said nobody would be allowed into the stone circle for the traditional summer celebrations if too many turned up.

Science report

Rare shrub reintroduced to island

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent. Scientists from the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew have ensured the survival of a rare and unusual plant on St Helena in a project to protect the remote south Atlantic island's fragile soils from further erosion. The success of the 'green glue' project could, they believe, offer hope for arid land conservation in Ethiopia and other African countries.

Law Report January 7 1986

False name merely preparatory to offence

Regina v Widdowson Before Lord Justice Aokner, Mr Justice Drake and Mr Justice Saville [Judgment delivered December 19] A man who provided a false name and address on a form used for inquiries to be made whether he was creditworthy for hire-purchase, was not guilty of attempting to obtain services by deception. The Court of Appeal so held in giving reserved reasons for having allowed an appeal by Stanley Widdowson, aged 37, a cleaning contractor, of Thetford, against conviction after a two-day trial at Bury St Edmunds Crown Court (Judge Turner and a jury). He was sentenced to three months' imprisonment suspended for a year, fined £100 and ordered to pay costs.

Law Report January 7 1986

False name merely preparatory to offence

Regina v Widdowson Before Lord Justice Aokner, Mr Justice Drake and Mr Justice Saville [Judgment delivered December 19] A man who provided a false name and address on a form used for inquiries to be made whether he was creditworthy for hire-purchase, was not guilty of attempting to obtain services by deception. The Court of Appeal so held in giving reserved reasons for having allowed an appeal by Stanley Widdowson, aged 37, a cleaning contractor, of Thetford, against conviction after a two-day trial at Bury St Edmunds Crown Court (Judge Turner and a jury). He was sentenced to three months' imprisonment suspended for a year, fined £100 and ordered to pay costs.

WALL STREET

Early trade moderate

New York (Agencies) - Prices opened higher in moderate trading of New York Stock Exchange shares yesterday.

The Dow Jones industrial average which rose 11.47 to 1549.20 on Friday, was up 1.03 to 1550.23 shortly after the market opened.

Advancing shares led declining issues 494-483 among the 1,443 traded at one stage.

Mr Robert Eskin, head of equity trading at Montgomery Securities in Los Angeles, said the market would move to new highs, driven by stable or lower interest rates, moderate inflation and a smaller supply of shares.

Other analysts said the market could stay in a digestive phase for part of the first quarter.

Mr Kevin Keeney, of South West Securities in Dallas, said while volume was thin last week due to the new year holiday, the market leadership could be in the process of shifting from blue chip to secondary shares.

The markets awoke from their seasonal torpor yesterday, to see brisk business in several contracts. Zinc fell again as local liquidation broke selling stop-points. London Metal

Exchange the stocks rose 3,940 tonnes to a record 61,920 tonnes, largely because of banks putting tin on warrant.

Other precious metals did not share the enthusiasm. Coffee was the focus of attention among the softs, with persistent buying pressure. But palm oil fell.

Sterling recovered earlier losses took the pound near to 1.43 yesterday, to end the day slightly ahead of Friday's close at \$1.4415, against \$1.4387. But it failed to make any progress against the continental, slipping to DM5.5248, for example, against DM5.6304. Sterling's trade-weighted index fell to 77.9, from 78.0.

The day opened with a large corporate order, selling sterling 201.75, from 202.60, in quiet trading.

The morning session was still much influenced by last week's remarks by the Bank of England's governor, Mr Samuel Brittan, that the pound should stay at or above 200 to the dollar.

Business in yen was consequently restricted, falling to 201.75, from 202.60, in quiet trading.

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Table with columns for currency, spot rate, and forward rates for various currencies including New York, London, and others.

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Table listing dollar spot rates for various international currencies such as the Australian dollar, Canadian dollar, and others.

OTHER STERLING RATES

Table showing other sterling rates for currencies like the Hong Kong dollar, Japanese yen, and others.

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

Large table listing various financial trusts with columns for trust name, price, and other financial details.

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

Table of London commodity exchange prices for various goods like rubber, tin, and copper.

GAS OIL

Table showing gas oil prices for different grades and quantities.

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

Table of London metal exchange prices for metals like tin, copper, and zinc.

SILVER SMALL

Table showing silver small prices for different grades.

ALUMINIUM

Table showing aluminium prices for different grades.

METAL AND LIVESTOCK

Table showing metal and livestock prices for various commodities.

CANADIAN PRICES

Table listing Canadian prices for various commodities and goods.

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

Table showing money market rates and gold prices for different terms and currencies.

EURO-CURRENCY DEPOSITS

Table showing Euro-currency deposit rates for various banks and currencies.

GOLD

Table showing gold prices and market information.

ECGD

Table showing ECGD (Export Credit Guarantee Department) rates.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Table listing investment trusts with columns for trust name, price, and other financial details.

Large table of stock market prices for various companies, including columns for company name, price, and change.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Table showing London financial futures prices for various contracts like oil, gold, and other commodities.

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

Table providing information about unit trusts, including trust names, prices, and other details.

THE TIMES Portfolio DAILY DIVIDEND £2,000 Claims required for +49 points

THE TIMES Portfolio

From your Portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page.

If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stand. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card.

Table with 4 columns: No., Company, Price, % Change. Lists various companies like ELECTRICALS, BUILDING AND ROADS, etc.

Weekly Dividend table with columns for days of the week (MON, TUE, WED, THU, FRI, SAT, SUNDAY) and a total.

BRITISH FUNDS

Table listing various British funds with columns for High/Low, Company, Price, % Change, and P/E ratio.

BREWERIES

Table listing brewery companies with columns for High/Low, Company, Price, % Change, and P/E ratio.

BANKS DISCOUNT HP

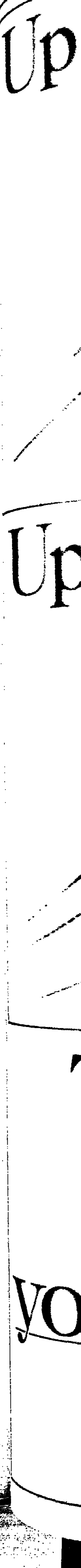
Table listing bank discount companies with columns for High/Low, Company, Price, % Change, and P/E ratio.

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES Early gains lost

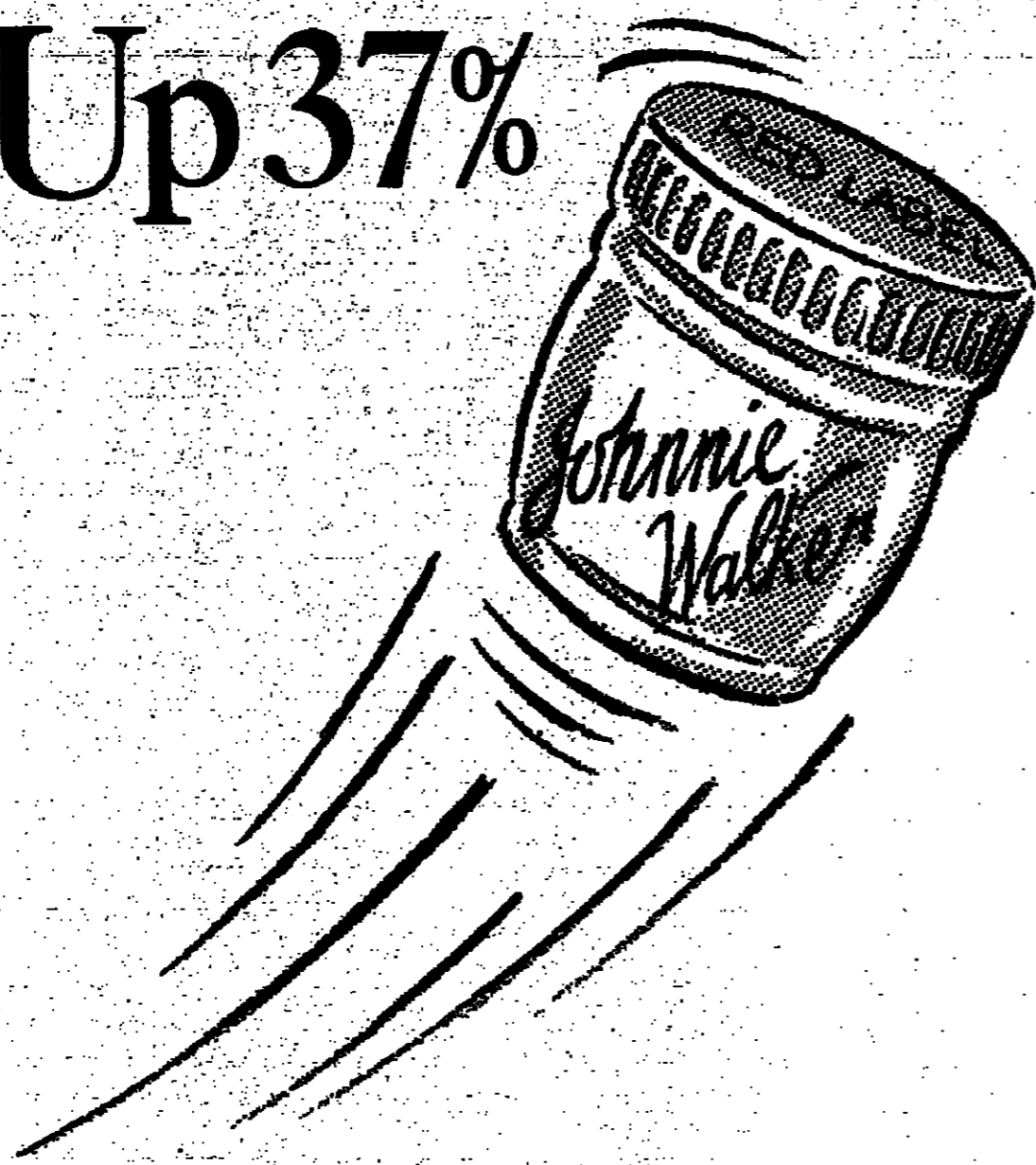
ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Dec 23. Dealings End, Jan 10. Contango Day, Jan 13. Settlement Day, Jan 20. Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

Main stock exchange price table with multiple columns for company names, prices, and changes. Includes sub-sections like BUILDING AND ROADS, FINANCE AND LAND, FOODS, HOTELS AND CATERERS, INDUSTRIALS, etc.

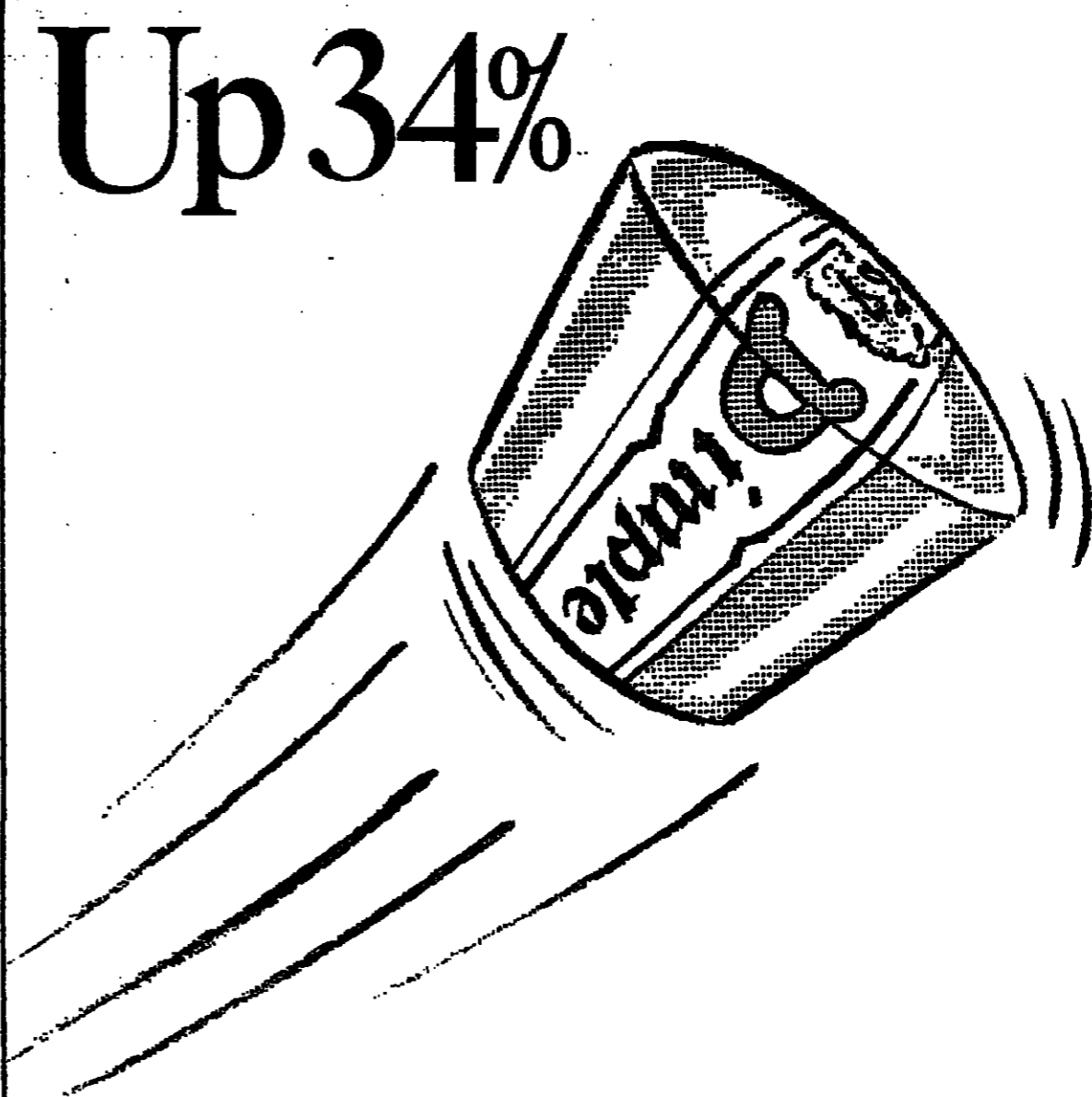
Table listing various international and specialized stock categories such as OVERSEAS TRADERS, PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERTISING, PROPERTY, SHIPPING, SHOES AND LEATHER, TEXTILES, TOBACCO, and MOTORS AND AIRCRAFT.



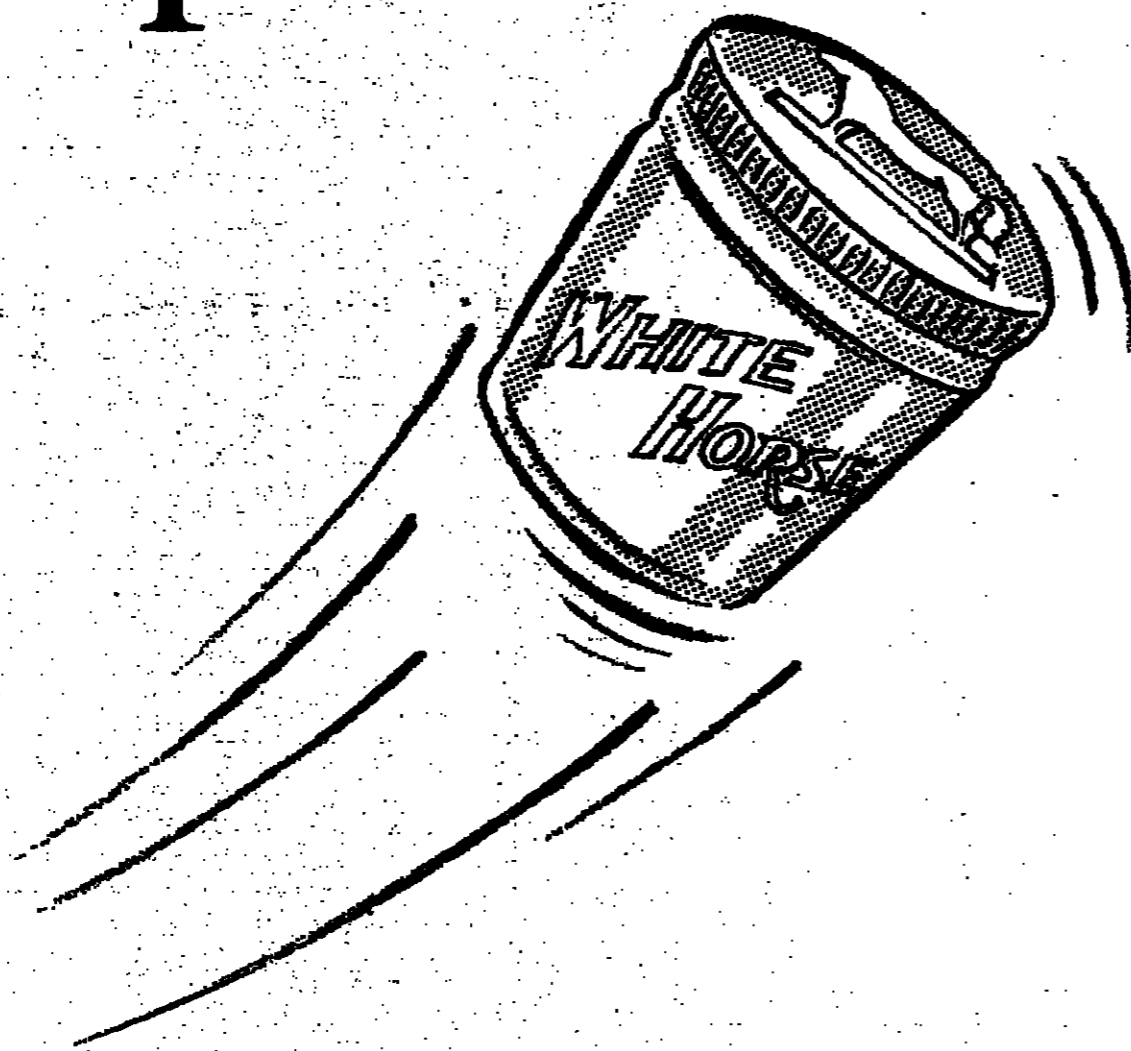
Up 37%



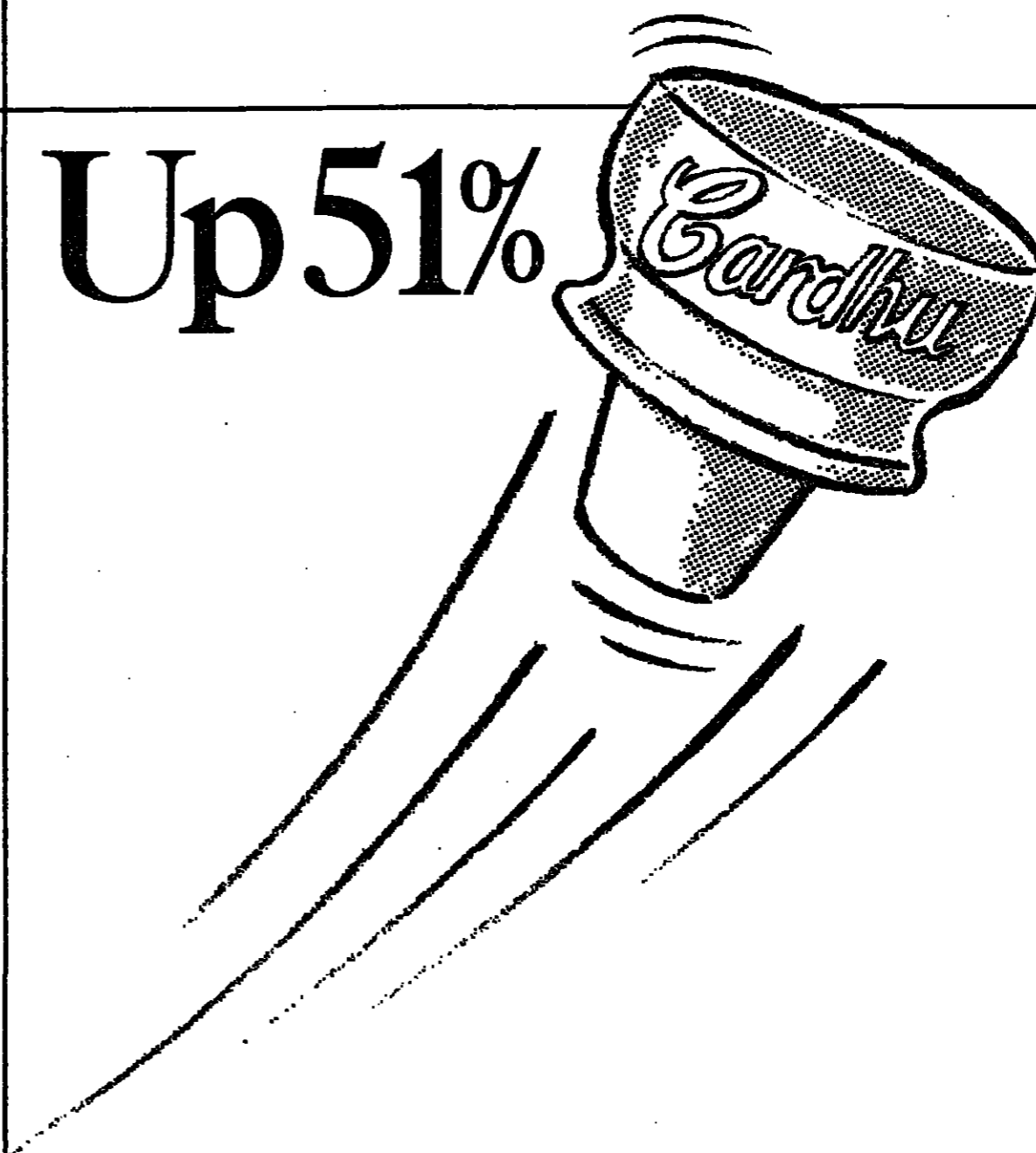
Up 34%



Up 23%



Up 51%



Source: DCL Home Trade Case Sales statistics April - September 1985 compared to same period previous year

This should scotch
the story
you're spreading, Argyll.

The Distillers Company plc.

This advertisement is published by The Distillers Company plc, whose directors (including those who have delegated detailed supervision of this advertisement) have taken all reasonable care to ensure that the facts stated and opinions expressed herein are fair and accurate. Each of the directors accepts responsibility accordingly.

TIMES
no
IDEND
red for
FACET

FOOTBALL: FREEZING WEATHER THREATENS TO THROW FA CUP INTO EVEN MORE CONFUSION

Liverpool back at the Bridge with memories to wipe out

By Stuart Jones Football Correspondent The FA Cup, already filled with confusion, is threatening to overflow into chaos...

Fourth round draw

- Arsenal v Tottenham, Liverpool v Ipswich, Manchester United v Watford...

The only other clear-cut tie to have emerged from the draw features two other first division teams...

Among the myriad possibilities that remain, many players and managers may be invited back to their old stomping grounds...



Boniek at the double: Roma's Polish international leaps over Peters, of Atlanta, on his way to two goals during his side's 4-0 victory on Sunday

Britons are kept busy in some corner of a foreign field

A busy time for British stars abroad. Triver Francis and Steve Archibald both scored goals for their respective teams...

World Football Brian Glanville Argentina, embroiled in the World Cup qualifying tournament, could give him, in consequence, the lesson...

BADMINTON

Conflict as players decline to compete

By Richard Eaton The refusal of five of England's best known players to take part in next month's national championships is the first sign of a conflict...

YACHTING

Early arrivals given the glory though victor is undecided

From John Nicholls, Auckland They felt they might even have made second place until the wind died on them four days outside Auckland...

Apricot pair's plum prize

By Adrian Morgan Tony Bullimore, the skipper of the 60ft trimaran Apricot, are the joint winners of the 1985 Yachting Journalists' Association Yachtsman of the Year award...

BASKETBALL

Leicester a strange team, coach says

By Nicholas Harling Almost unnoticed, while most of the attention was focused on the World Invitation Cup Championships at Crystal Palace...

GOLF

Lesson for the young from Irwin

From Mitchell Platts, Nassau Hale Irwin showed little respect for his younger rivals as he prepared for his final round on an emphatic success in the Bahamas Classic which finished here on the Paradise Island course on Sunday...

Orient make Oldham pay penalty for misses

By Peter Ball The next chance was equally good although less well worked. Butcher held off a defender following a corner and kicked his spot with care, only to side foot the ball wide...

Table with 4 columns: Fixtures and Forecasts for various football divisions including Premier, Second, Third, and Fourth divisions.

Republic ready to appoint McNeill as manager

The Manchester City manager, Billy McNeill, looks certain to take charge of the Republic of Ireland at the end of the week...

Millwall paying heavily for all-ticket ruling

Millwall manager, George Graham claimed yesterday that the FA's 'all-ticket' ruling is proving a financial disaster at The Den.

Scots seek fresh deal

Ian Gellatly, president of the Scottish League, has called a meeting today to try to thrash out a peace formula which would prevent the formation of a breakaway league.

European results

Table of European football results including matches from Bundesliga, Serie A, and other leagues.

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

Patriots hoist the flag on Conference final place

In hard-fought National Football League play-off games Sunday, the New England Patriots overcame the Los Angeles Raiders 27-20...

BOXING

Graham's title bout in danger

Herol Graham's European middleweight title bout with the Ugandan born Ayub Kalule, due to take place in Sheffield on February 5, is in danger of being called off.

SQUASH RACKETS

England look to Hickox

England's women's team are looking to gain their first cap. The England women's team include the world junior champion and national title holder Lucy South (Northamptonshire) at number one...

FIXTURES AND FORECASTS

Table with 4 columns: Fixtures and Forecasts for various football divisions including Premier, Second, Third, and Fourth divisions.

TENNIS

Grand slam champions lead drift back to work in doubles festival

By Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent

Tennis professionals are shaking off the rust and drifting back to work. This week the Albert Hall accommodates its annual doubles festival...

RACING: GRAND NATIONAL WINNER 20-1 FOR AINTREE REPEAT AFTER CHEPSTOW COMEBACK

Last Suspect delights Dunwoody

By Michael Seely

Richard Dunwoody, deputizing for the injured Hywel Davies and wearing the black and yellow colours made famous by Arkle, had three thrills of a lifetime when putting Last Suspect on target for a second successive win with a comfortable victory Two Coppers...



Von Trappe, who will be exercising on the sands of Southport today in preparation for Saturday's Embassy Premier Chase Final at Ascot

Impressive return to form by Ararun

The return to winning form of the Paddy Mullins-trained Ararun in the V O'Grady Memorial Handicap was the highlight of yesterday's meeting at Fairyhouse where...

Ararun was the lead throughout, quick to clear at the top of the course and won puffing up by a length and a half from his nearest rival...

Ararun is expected to challenge for the Embassy Premier Chase final at Ascot next Saturday with Proud Souroona...

Irish Board nominate first woman

Sally Cox, whose parents and many relatives will recall glory days at Chesham, has been nominated as the first woman member of the Racing Board, the Irish equivalent of the Levy Board...

While the Irish Minister for Agriculture, Austin Deasy, has been applauded for the nomination of Mrs Cox, there has been much hostile reaction to the dropping of Mrs Cox's name...

Rowland and Doyle to manage Lions

Anderson fills gap

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

By George Ace

Clive Rowlands, of Wales, and Michael Doyle, of Ireland, have been invited to manage the British Isles and Ireland team which will play a team drawn from the remaining four International Board countries at Cardiff on April 16...

Roger Anderson, the London Irish three-quarter, takes over from the injured Keith Cross as the new left wing for the game next Tuesday night against Queensland at Ravenhill...

Ford may be driven north

Steve Ford, the wing banned from rugby union because he took part in a rugby league trial, may now join the professional game.

Chepstow results

2.30 (3m 45s) 1. BATTLE KING (J. Dunlop) 2. Star Chief (P. Barron) 3.1 Mr. ALSO 2.30 (3m 45s) 2. Star Chief (P. Barron) 3.1 Mr. ALSO 2.30 (3m 45s) 2. Star Chief (P. Barron) 3.1 Mr. ALSO

Von Trappe heads for the seaside

Von Trappe, one of the season's top novice chasers, takes trip to the seaside today in preparation for Saturday's Embassy Premier Chase Final at Ascot.

Blank day

Today's race meetings were both called off following inspections yesterday afternoon. Snow and frost combined to rule out Wetherby while frost was the culprit at Leicester.

2.30 (3m 45s) 1. DROM LADY (V. McEvoy) 2.30 (3m 45s) 1. DROM LADY (V. McEvoy) 2.30 (3m 45s) 1. DROM LADY (V. McEvoy)

Alan Gibson reflects on the unhappiest sporting moment of his life

When you are too old to cry and it hurts too much to laugh

Christmas and the New Year brought their usual crop of articles recalling the best moments, not least sporting moments of 1985, or of a lifetime. Quite right too. It is a season for nostalgia. I spent the time in hospital, which is not the best place to be, though Ham Green, Bristol, certainly did their best to keep us cheerful, even the formidable Sister, who is popularly reputed to spend her spare time as a traffic warden in Bristol City Centre.

Britain finds the truth beneath the showmanship of Jones

When Alan Jones was appointed coach to the Australian team, early in 1984, to the disappointment of his detractors, he was not...

Sometimes, I suppose, I can bring my literary background to bear (he was an arts graduate from the island University). In the 1984 tour party we tried to achieve the same feeling as that which Nadia Comaneci, the Romanian gymnast, described during the 1976 Olympic Games. She said: "My mind is full of getting it absolutely right."



Jones communicator

Jones - opinionated, arrogant, inquiring, according to your taste - has impressed me with his down-to-earth rugby administrators in this country. One leading coach, the last man I would have expected to make the comment, expressed the wish that Jones could give England a talk before their first match, such as he did before Oxford defeated Cambridge in the University match.

He told Lane how the decision had been made. Lane spent the tour not so much knocking on the door of the international side as kicking down the panels, and was kept out by the consistent form of three exceptional players: Slack, the captain, Ella, the playmaker, Lynch, the goalkeeper. When those three were unavailable last summer, Lane's advice arrived, whether he was invited or not. Jones, who represents his country, or by loyalty to his colleague or coach, only he knows, but Lane fully justified the decision.

The whole business of motivation for the international player is a West, at a coaching seminar complex one does it derive from pride in one's country's pride in its own performance? In Jones's case he had undoubtedly found the key to unlock his players' inhibitions. I am sure that every player is available.

Hull clubs clash in the first round

By Keith Mackinn

One of the Humber-side giants, Hull or Hull Kingston Rovers, will disappear in the first round of the Yorkshire Cup. The match was made at Headingley, Leeds, yesterday and the two great rivals meet in the first round after Hull have completed the formality of disposing of an amateur club, Dudley Hill or St James Cross, in the preliminary round.

England must improve

By Joyce Whitehead

Eleven of the 16 players it is hoped will lift the England women's team out of the doldrums have been named for the national squad. Five more players will be added after the B International tournament at Old Trafford from February 21-23.

England must improve

By Joyce Whitehead

Eleven of the 16 players it is hoped will lift the England women's team out of the doldrums have been named for the national squad. Five more players will be added after the B International tournament at Old Trafford from February 21-23.

Hockey

By Joyce Whitehead

Eleven of the 16 players it is hoped will lift the England women's team out of the doldrums have been named for the national squad. Five more players will be added after the B International tournament at Old Trafford from February 21-23.

Hockey

By Joyce Whitehead

Eleven of the 16 players it is hoped will lift the England women's team out of the doldrums have been named for the national squad. Five more players will be added after the B International tournament at Old Trafford from February 21-23.

Advertisement for 'Solicitor Content', 'Career O Young', 'WRAC', and 'Richard E' with various contact details and legal notices.

New York police trap art thieves in \$18m 'sting'

By Robin Young in London and Trevor Fishlock in New York. A leading London art dealer at the centre of the New York sale of Islamic antiquities worth over \$18 million (£12 million) last night spoke of the mystery shipment, which had narrowly missed being stolen in the United States.

French had 'mole' in KGB

Continued from page 1. France in the 1960s and now wanted to be of service to France. According to M Wolton, "farewell" as he was immediately dubbed, "turned out to be a senior officer working in the 'T' Department of the KGB".

Murder victim's family are reunited



Mme Darie Boutoul, left, in a tearful family reunion on French television with her father as her mother holds her child Adrien.

Paris (Reuters) - Police questioned the mother-in-law of murdered lawyer M Jacques Perrot, childhood friend of the French Prime Minister, M Laurent Fabius, for four hours yesterday after she hinted the lawyer may have died for inquiring into a fraud scandal for which she was debarred in 1981.

Alliance parties agree on seat allocation. Liberals and Social Democrats have reached agreement on how to decide which of the Alliance parties should contest each of the 635 mainland constituencies at the next general election.

Letter from Madrid

Taxing times for Spain's shoppers

The winter sales in the big department stores begin today throughout Spain and value-added tax will not have been added to prices as the law has required since Spain's accession to the EEC on New Year's Day. The Government will be grateful if it fears the inflationary effects of the tax.

Today's events

New exhibition: Paintings and drawings by Paul Flanagan, Peacock Gallery, Pinebank House Arts Centre, Tullyally Road, Craigavon, Northern Ireland; Mon to Fri 10 to 5 (ends Jan 31).

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,937. A crossword puzzle grid with numbers in the starting squares.

ACROSS: 1 Though sweet this fool may be, lovers find one too (10). 2 Adventure film in the picture-theatre (4).

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

TV top ten: National top ten television programmes in the week ending December 22. 1 EastEnders (Thu/Sat, 9.25pm, 15.30m). 2 EastEnders (Thu/Sat, 10.35pm, 15.30m).

The pound: Bank of England. Bank Rate 8.25%. 12-month gilt 11.75%. 5-year gilt 11.75%.

\$250,000 bond: The winning number of this month's £250,000 Premium Bond prize is 14 KF 421442. The winner lives in Leeds.

Portfolio: A table listing various stocks and their prices. Columns include Stock Name, Price, and Change.

Roads

Narrow: Traffic on the Ridgeway reduced to single alternate lanes repairs at the railway bridge will seriously affect commuter traffic. Roadworks at the junction of Eversholt St, NW1, and Doric way, just N of Euston Rd.

Safer skiing: A booklet on safer skiing issued by the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy points out that at least one in 30 skiers return injured, yet less than 10 per cent of accidents are caused by natural hazards such as snow covering an obstacle or equipment failure.

SNOW REPORTS: A table reporting snow conditions in various regions. Columns include Region, Conditions, and Remarks.

Lighting-up time: London 4.20 pm to 7.24 am. Edinburgh 4.40 pm to 7.24 am. Glasgow 4.40 pm to 7.24 am.

Weather

A weak ridge of high pressure will decline as frontal troughs approach S Britain. 6am to midnight: London, East Angles, Midlands: Dry start, outbreaks of sleet or snow in places; wind SE moderate to fresh; max temp 2C (36F).

High tides: A table listing high tide times for various locations. Columns include Location, Time, and Height.

Around Britain: A table showing weather forecasts for different parts of the British Isles. Columns include Region, Sun, Rain, and Wind.

Abroad: A table listing weather forecasts for various international locations. Columns include Location, Sun, Rain, and Wind.